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LABOUR EXCHANGES.

WITH nearly the whole of the iron and coal districts of the country agitated by disputes about the rate of wages, with unseemly violence in some places and distress in all, it is worth while to inquire whether some more reasonable and less clumsy and costly mode cannot be devised of adjusting the differences between employers and employed than strikes and lock-outs. And the letter of Mr. Samuelson, published in another column, is both well-timed and judicious, as is also the proposed conference between representa-

tives of labour and of capital which is shortly to be held. It is a hopeful sign when both sides consent to submit their differences to the arbitrament of reason rather than of force; and we look forward with hope, therefore, to the forthcoming conference; for, though it may not immediately inaugurate a system that will supersede strikes, it may be expected to lay foundations on which to build in the future. Meanwhile, Mr. Samuelson's scheme of boards of conciliation, or Labour Exchanges, such as are now in operation at Nottingham, is deserving of the attention and acceptance of all concerned.

Not that we look upon the proposal as abstractly perfect, for we should prefer a system of absolutely free labour, under which each individual workman and each individual employer would be at liberty to make his own bargain. But as that seems unattainable at present, we are inclined to accept the scheme of labour exchanges as a compromise whereby great evils may be avoided.

Strikes, or lock-outs—call them by whichever name you please—almost invariably occur, nowadays, in regard to the rate of wages or the hours of labour (practically the same



THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND: LANDING OF THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES AT KINGSTOWN.

thing); for, though other points are sometimes involved, they are generally of minor importance. Strikes against the introduction of machinery, once so common, are rare now, though such an event does occasionally occur, with the curious inconsistency exhibited of the opponents of machinery being supported in the dispute by contributions from men who live by wages earned in making the machines. That is an exceptional case, however; and attention may be concentrated on the problem, How to devise a plan whereby the scale of remuneration to the workman may be adjusted without his requiring to resort to the clumsy, costly, unsatisfactory, and often ruinous, expedient of a strike.

Now, if men could be made universally to understand two things—namely, that labour is a commodity to be bought and sold, like any other article of barter; and that its value depends upon the relative state of the supply and demand in the open market—we should gain an important step towards the object aimed at. If any particular department of trade be brisk—that is, if there be an active demand for a certain fabric or substance—the labour engaged in its production will be in request, and will rise in value. If, on the contrary, the reverse be the case, if trade be dull, labour in that branch of industry will be superabundant, and its value will be depreciated; and no artificial means whatever will avail to bolster it up. As regards the products of labour—such as manufactured goods, coal, iron, and so forth—the market price is fixed for the time being, directly or indirectly by the process of bargaining, or the “higgling of the market,” as it is called; and the same principle ought to apply to the labour that produces the commodity. The value of labour is not a fixed thing; it is subject to fluctuations—to rises and falls—just the same as are cotton goods, coal, iron, grain, or any other article. It is in vain for a workman to say, “I require such-and-such a sum in wages to enable me to maintain myself and my family in comfort, and I will not take less;” for, if the article he is engaged in producing will not bring a price in the market such as will pay him the wages he asks, and at the same time remunerate all other parties engaged in its production and distribution, one of two things must result: the workman must either accept lower wages and the capitalist employer be content with smaller profits, or the particular industry must be abandoned altogether—so far, at least, as they are concerned. And, as reduced wages and reduced profits are surely better than no wages and no profits at all, there can be little difficulty as to which alternative sensible men would adopt.

But the real difficulty is how to convince employers and employed as to when a sacrifice should be made, and who ought to make it. Employers are slow to admit that trade is ever so good as to warrant an advance of wages, and employed are perhaps slower still to allow that it is ever so bad as to justify a reduction. Hence strikes and lock-outs, which are a kind of rough way of “higgling” the labour market. But a very rough, very clumsy, very costly way they are. Could the same end not be accomplished by simpler means, involving less mischief, less strife, and less suffering? Strikes are worse than lawsuits: whoever wins must lose, and those who lose must suffer grievously. They are, therefore, to be avoided, if possible; and no device should be left untried that gives a reasonable prospect of averting them.

Mr. Samuelson proposes labour exchanges—that is, boards composed of employers and employed, parties thoroughly acquainted with the condition of each particular industry; who would meet, compare notes, discuss the state of the market, ascertain the scale of prices, and fix the rate of wages, such rate to endure till circumstances would seem to call for a change, either in the upward or downward direction. Records of the amount of production, the rapidity of sales, the scale of prices, and the rates of wages, might be collected and kept under the supervision of the several boards, and data be thus obtained for comparing one period with another. The scale of wages might be fixed at the rates prevailing when the boards were constituted; and alterations, when called for by changes in the condition of trade, might be effected in this manner: In bad times, the employers would naturally take the initiative; they would call the board of the district or trade together, and say, “Trade is depressed; sales cannot be effected, nor profits realised. We think a reduction of wages desirable.” In good times, on the other hand, action would come from the employed, who would address the board thus: “Trade is good, sales are readily effected, and large profits are obtained. We submit that an advance of wages is warranted.” And the question, in either case, could be discussed, before a dispute had arisen, with calmness, a thing impossible in the midst of the heat, ill-blood, and excitement incident to a quarrel in progress. This seems a rational and reasonable scheme; and that it is practicable is proved by what now obtains in the lace and shoe trades of Nottingham and the ribbon trade of Coventry. These towns were wont to be the scene of continual disputes and strikes, of stagnation and idleness. Now, since the institution of boards of conciliation, disputes are unknown and everyone is busy. Is not that an example well worthy of imitation, and is not a similar result devoutly to be wished for everywhere and in every trade? We think so, and therefore we hope the plan will be universally resorted to.

THE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE HOSPITAL have, through the liberality of the Hospital Carriage Fund, been placed in the possession of a carriage for the convenience of persons suffering from infectious diseases. The committee, feeling that it may be of important service to the public by being used for the district, have determined that persons requiring it, and who reside within a three-mile radius of the hospital, may obtain the same upon application to the clerk at the hospital and paying the actual expenses of hire.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.

THE LANDING AT KINGSTOWN.

THE spot selected for the landing was the same at which her Majesty first set foot on Irish soil. Such coincidences accord with the spirit of the people, who like to associate the past with the present by perpetual mementoes. The date of the event is inscribed upon a stone, and care was taken to have the record transferred to the crimson cloth which was laid over it upon the landing-stage. This was an ornamental structure, upon which the Board of Public Works bestowed elaborate attention, and of which they seemed to feel not a little proud. It was fancifully decorated on the outside in various showy colours and quaint patterns. The floor was covered with crimson cloth, and along the sides were boxes of shrubs and flowers tastefully arranged. At the east and west sides of it, with an open space between, were elevated seats, to which admission was obtained by ticket. At the south side was a covered porch for the carriages to enter, and a strong barrier placed at some distance outside prevented any pressure from the populace.

From an early hour the scene was animated. All the vessels were dressed in their brightest attire, flags waved from the clubhouses, railway stations, and public offices, and every imaginable colour was displayed. As the appointed time drew near successive trains brought hundreds from the city to swell the throng. At half-past ten the guard of honour, a detachment of the third battalion of Foot Guards, which had come by special train, marched down with their band playing “The British Grenadiers.” They were drawn up along the edge of the wharf, and the band in the interval enlivened the scene by their music. At eleven o’clock two troops of the 10th Hussars and one troop of the 12th Lancers arrived by road to form the Royal escort, and took up a position near the pavilion. At length the hour (twelve o’clock) struck for the landing, and all was eager expectation. The Royal yacht was brought slowly round, while every eye was fixed upon it by the spectators, who thronged the shore and swarmed about the special steamers and boats in the harbour, which drew in as closely as they could to view the scene. As the Victoria and Albert approached more nearly, the acclamations of the multitude began to be more loud and general. At ten minutes past twelve she touched the land, and the band played the National Anthem. Their Excellencies the Lord Lieutenant and the Marchioness of Abercorn, with the Viceregal household staff; Lord Strathnairn and his aides-de-camp, Lord Howth and Lord Mayo, the Lord Chancellor, and a numerous array of military and civil authorities, formed a conspicuous group in the foreground, awaiting the arrival of the Royal visitors. As soon as the gangway had been run down, their Excellencies and the leading personages who were in attendance went on board and paid their respects to their Royal Highnesses. After a few minutes, his Excellency returned on shore, leading the Princess of Wales; and the Prince followed, with the Marchioness of Abercorn. The ships manned yards, the cannon thundered, the band played the National Anthem, and the cheers of the people joined in tumultuous chorus, in honour of the Prince and Princess.

THE ENTRY INTO DUBLIN.

The equipages which were in waiting were rapidly brought up. The Lord Lieutenant and the Marchioness of Abercorn first entered their carriage, and drove off followed by a detachment of the escort. Another open carriage received the Prince and Princess, the Duke of Cambridge, and Prince Teck, and proceeded next with the rest of the escort. As they passed through the crowd they received from all sides a sincere welcome. All along the route to Dublin the festive scene was repeated; flags and drapery floated everywhere, people assembled at all commanding points to await the cortege, and as it swept past more quickly than its loyal expectants would have desired, they offered by voice and gesture the same respectful and hearty tribute. A slight interruption occurred at Blackrock in consequence of the persevering loyalty of a number of young ladies who had prepared a beautiful bouquet as a gift to the Princess, and, in spite of official discouragement, determined to present it. There was no possibility of resisting the persuasive influence of their presence, and in full career the cavalcade was stopped until the Princess received the little offering. On resuming their journey the Royal party soon made up for the brief interval of delay, and about one o’clock the head of the cortege arrived at Baginbun street bridge, the boundary of the city, where the Lord Mayor and Corporation had assembled to join it. Here it was hoped it would stop for a moment to receive the formal congratulations of the Town Council; but on it hurried, the inhabitants, who thronged the balconies, steps, and windows of their houses, waving their welcome, while the same festive decorations everywhere met the view. The cortege passed through Baginbun street, Fitzwilliam street, Merion-square, East and North Clare street, Nassau street, College-green, and Dame street, to the castle. In the leading thoroughfares last named the visible emblems of rejoicing were multiplied in endless variety. Every house blossomed with banners and festoons of every colour. Some of them were wreathed from the roofs with evergreen. Lines of flags and mottoes spanned the streets, and formed a brilliant contrast to the dark, dense masses of people who filled the space below. Words of “Welcome to Erin” were conspicuous. In the windows and balconies were gay clusters of spectators, who joined their expressive salutations to the greeting of the populace. With a confident reliance on the loyal and hospitable spirit of the people, which was fully appreciated, the Prince had no fears of troops to keep the passage clear; but, by their own spontaneous recognition of what was due to the Royal visitor, an open track was kept for the cortege, and when the escort had passed through, the crowd closed in behind it, like a tide in the wake of the ship which cleaves it. At the college a large balcony had been erected, which was filled with students, whose welcome was not the less hearty that they had been considerably released from the trammels of the term examinations.

In front of the City Hall an immense balcony extended, on which were seated the friends of the civic representatives. In the background stands a colossal statue of O’Connell, and the scene was strangely suggestive of the days of monster meetings, when the “most sweet voices” of the multitude, excited by his eloquence, filled the air. Since that memorable time so dense a concourse has not been seen in Ireland as that which filled the streets from the college to the castle. The appearance of the Royal cavalcade as it approached through the vast throng, with its brilliant equipages, the uniforms of the cavalry glistening in the sun, and the banners waving on all sides, was strikingly impressive. Here the enthusiasm of the populace, which had been comparatively subdued before, found unrestrained expression, and the “Liberator” himself did not listen to a heartier cheer than arose from the multitude as the Prince and Princess passed into the castle. They were followed by the Duke of Cambridge, the Countess of Carmarthen, the Hon. Mrs. Stonor, General Knollys, the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and the officers and gentlemen of the Viceregal Court.

INSTALLATION OF THE PRINCE AS A KNIGHT OF ST. PATRICK.

Passing over the visit of their Royal Highnesses to Panchestown races, which was a repetition of the ovation previously offered, we give some details of the great event of the visit, which took place last Saturday afternoon. The installation took place between four and five o’clock, the cathedral having been filled at three. The Prince of Wales seated himself on a low chair in front of a vacant stall, and the choir sang Sir John Stevenson’s “Te Deum.” While this anthem was being performed, Ulster King of Arms, attended by his pursuivants and heralds, went back to the chapter-room to fetch the insignia of the order. On his return the Usher of the Black Rod went to the stall of his Royal Highness and conducted him to the table. At the command of the Grand Master, the Marquis of Clanricarde and the Marquis Conyngham, as senior knights present, descended from their stalls, and by them his Royal Highness was girt with the sword, the Prelate reading the following admonition:—“Take this sword to the increase of your honour, and in token and sign of the most illustrious order which you have

received, wherewith you being defended may be bold strongly to fight in defence of those rites and ordinances to which you be engaged, and to the just and necessary defence of those that be oppressed and needy.” His Royal Highness was then robed with the mantle, the prescribed admonition being read by the Prelate as follows:—“Receive this robe and livery of this most illustrious order, in augmentation of thine honour, and wear it with a firm and steady resolution that by your character, conduct, and demeanour you may approve yourself a true servant of Almighty God and a worthy Brother and Knight Companion of this most illustrious order.” The Prince of Wales having advanced to the stall of the Grand Master, his Excellency invested him with the collar of the order, saying, “Sir, the loving company of the order of St. Patrick hath received you their brother, lover, and fellow, and in token and knowledge of this they give you and present you this badge, the which God will that you receive and wear from henceforth, to His praise and pleasure and to the exaltation and honour of the said illustrious order and yourself.” Then the banner of the Prince of Wales was unfurled by his equerries and brandished about the chancel; and next, after a flourish of trumpets, the titles, honours, and dignities of the newly-elected Knight were recited by Ulster King of Arms. Thereupon his Royal Highness presented a purse to the registrar (the fees of installation amount, by statute, to £100 sterling), and then the banner was handed over to the appointed depositaries and the ceremonial was virtually over. The Princess watched the proceedings of the ceremonial with the liveliest interest.

THE BANQUET.

At the banquet in the evening the Lord Lieutenant, in proposing the health of the Prince of Wales, said:—

I need not tell you that the presence of that illustrious Prince here is of no ordinary significance and import, still less need I offer a welcome to our illustrious guest on behalf of Ireland. That welcome has already been fully and unreservedly given by the Irish people themselves. The shout of acclamation that for four successive days have rung in our ears, the thunders of applause and congratulation that have greeted the illustrious heir of these kingdoms in the streets to-day, will have shown him, better than any words of mine, the kindly nature of the Irish people, and the attachment that may be awakened in their generous and cordial hearts. They know and believe that, in assuming the mantle and collar of the patron saint of Ireland, our illustrious guest has inaugurated no empty pageant, but rather the promise of an era of increased and mutual attachment and confidence between the people of this country and his illustrious house; a hope enhanced, if I may be permitted to say so in his presence, by the cordial bearing and great and universal personal popularity of his Royal Highness. But, my Lords and Gentlemen, I should say that the days of chivalry were indeed gone by were it possible, in an assemblage of knights on this occasion, not to proffer also our heartfelt thanks and homage to the illustrious and noble lady, the consort of our Royal guest, on this the first occasion of her visit to Irish shores. There is no man worthy of the name of Irishman, whether knight or the coroneted peer, the installed knight, or the hardy and stalwart son of the soil, who has not felt the fair presence of that illustrious lady as a ray of sunbeam gilding the Irish horizon.

The Prince, in replying, spoke with an unaffected earnestness which deepened the impression left by his words. He said:—

Your Excellency, your Royal Highnesses, my Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen,—In the name of the Princess of Wales and myself, I beg to tender you my warmest thanks for the very kind and flattering manner in which this toast has been proposed, and for the cordial way in which it has been received by the company present here this evening. Under any circumstances I should feel it a great honour to have my health proposed by his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, but to-night the circumstances under which it has been proposed are peculiar, for I appear as a Knight of the Illustrious Order of St. Patrick. I can assure you that I feel very proud to wear this evening for the first time the star and ribbon of this illustrious order; and I am very grateful to her Majesty the Queen for having given it to me. On former occasions I have received the orders of Great Britain from her Majesty’s own hands; and although I cannot but regret that on this occasion she has not been able to give this order to me herself, still it was the Queen’s wish that I should receive it on Irish soil from the hands of her representative, the Lord Lieutenant. This order was first founded, now more than eighty years ago, by my great-grandfather, King George III., and was instituted by him as a mark of his goodwill and friendship towards this country, and it is my hope that, as his great grandson, having to-day received it on Irish soil, I may also be instrumental in evincing in this country, in the name of my Sovereign and my mother, her goodwill and friendship towards Ireland. I feel also proud that I have been not only invested with the insignia of this order but installed in the magnificent Cathedral of St. Patrick, for the restoration of which we are indebted to the great munificence of a private gentleman of Ireland, whose name is so well known that I need not mention it to you, more particularly as I have the pleasure of seeing him at this table. My Lords and Gentlemen, I am very glad to have this opportunity of stating to you, on behalf of the Princess and myself, how deeply gratified we are by the reception which has been accorded to us in this country, not only as the Lord Lieutenant has observed, by the higher classes, but by the sons of the soil as well. After the sad times of the past year, it might, perhaps, have been thought by some that our reception would not have been all that could have been wished. I myself felt confident that it would, and my hopes have been indeed realised. I beg, therefore, to offer, not only to those present who participated more immediately in our reception, but to the whole Irish people, our thanks for the cordial, hearty, and friendly welcome which we have received. I will not weary you with more words, but thank you once more for the honour you have done us in so heartily drinking our healths.

REVIEW IN PHOENIX PARK.

The review on the “Fifteen Acres” on Monday appears to have been raised by the presence of the Prince and Princess of Wales and their party to the rank of a grand spectacle, although the military portion of it was no more than may be seen any fortnight. The crowds which thronged every available space were immense, and the expressions of their loyalty were most exuberant. On Tuesday the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Cambridge received from Trinity College the degree of Doctor of Laws and the Prince unveiled the statue of Edmund Burke on the College-green front of Trinity, a fervid and eloquent address being delivered on the occasion by Lord Chief Justice Whiteside. The Prince and Princess then paid a visit to the Dublin Cattle Show, and attended a learned conversation in the evening. The Prince and Princess left Dublin yesterday and are expected to be at Carnarvon to-day (Saturday).

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS, &c.—It is probable that the recently-published balance-sheet of the Post Office Savings Bank will induce the trustees of many of the old banks throughout the country to end their responsibilities by putting the sums entrusted to them under Government protection. The statistics issued by the receiver and accountant-general of the Post Office show that since the commencement of the scheme 7,013,718 deposits have been made, that 1,380,750 accounts have been opened, that 529,754 have been closed, and that 850,996 were open at the end of last year. The most satisfactory item of the balance-sheet, however, appears in the fact that the surplus of funds to meet liabilities now amounts to £143,910, which is of itself a tolerably evident proof of success.

AN EVENTFUL LIFE-BOAT.—About sixteen months since the working people of Edinburgh collected the cost of a life-boat, which they presented to the National Life-boat Institution, and which is stationed at Port Logan, on the coast of Wigtonshire. The donors decided to associate with their boat the name of Mr. Ballantyne, the well-known author of “The Life-boat” and other popular works, and the boat was accordingly named the “Edinburgh and R. M. Ballantyne.” On the way to its station the life-boat was exhibited both in Edinburgh and Glasgow. While it was at the latter city the wife and children of the captain of the Glasgow barque Strathleven went to see the boat, and the mother put an offering in the contribution-box for the benefit of the life-boat. This was on Dec. 17, 1867, and, strange to say, that very day twelvemonth—that is, on Dec. 17, 1867—this identical life-boat was providentially the means of rescuing the master and his crew, consisting of fourteen men, of the Strathleven, which was wrecked a few miles from the Port Logan life-boat station. Another remarkable feature has now occurred in the history of this boat. The late Miss Elliott Lockhart, of Edinburgh, in conjunction with Miss Mary Oliver and other ladies, and Mr. R. M. Ballantyne, determined to raise £1000 in Edinburgh and its neighbourhood for the purpose of keeping up the life-boat in perpetuity. Accordingly, the first instalment of £650 has just been remitted by Miss Oliver to the National Life-boat Institution, and she expressed a hope of being able by-and-by to collect the remaining sum. She sincerely laments the death of her valued coadjutor, Miss Lockhart, who had made great efforts to raise the whole sum needed; she herself, in fact, by her own untiring exertions, had collected the greater part of the large sum already remitted to the society. We venture to hope that other friends of the life-boat cause will be found to succeed Miss Lockhart in her assiduity on behalf of the fund, and that hereafter we may have the satisfaction to report the completion of this magnificent project, which is well worthy of the example of other towns which have liberally given life-boats to the National Life-boat Institution.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Emperor completed his sixtieth year on Monday, having been born April 20, 1808.

In Monday's sitting of the Legislative Body, bills were presented for the completion of parochial roads. Sanction was given to a bill authorising the city of Paris to conclude an arrangement with the Crédit Foncier, enabling it to repay a debt of 398,000,000. The bill relative to the reduction of the telegraph rates in France was also adopted.

The *Moniteur du Soir* of Wednesday contains a paragraph warning the public against placing any confidence in the reports of impending war, which, it asserts, are propagated with the view to speculation; and, again, asserts that the French Government neglects no opportunity to discourage warlike aspirations and to strengthen the desire for a general peace.

The Protectionists of France have not ceased to agitate against the treaty of commerce with England. Certain Chambers of Commerce, backed by the Protectionist deputies, give a good deal of trouble in the matter, and threaten to give more. The Chamber of Roubaix, however, has just been worsted in argument by the Minister of Commerce. The chamber moaned bitterly about the decline of a million of francs in the value of the imports of Roubaix (alpaca, mixed cotton, and wool) between 1862 and 1866; the minister showed that within the same period the exports had increased by nearly forty millions of francs, and advised the chamber to hold its peace.

SPAIN.

Marshal Narvaez died at eight o'clock on Thursday morning. Señor Arrazola, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, has undertaken the duties of President of the Council.

ITALY.

Prince Humbert and Princess Margherita of Savoy were married, at Turin, on Wednesday. First, the civil marriage took place in the hall-room of the palace, in the presence of King Victor Emmanuel and a host of Parliamentary and municipal dignitaries. Next, the young couple went to the cathedral, where a grand nuptial mass was celebrated and the Archbishop of Turin performed the marriage service. Subsequently, the Princess received deputations from the army and the National Guard. The Archbishop of Turin and the President of the Senate were decorated by the King with the collar of the Annunziato. The city kept high holiday.

Last Saturday Count Digny, the Finance Minister, presented to the Italian Chamber of Deputies a series of proposals for effecting savings in the Budget of 1868 to the amount of 100 million lire. The Count at the same time announced that the Government intended to effect a financial operation with the Church property in order to abolish the forced currency.

ROME.

On Monday a solemn high mass was held at the Church of St. John Lateran to celebrate the anniversary of the birth of the Emperor Napoleon. Several cardinals, members of the diplomatic body, and high Pontifical functionaries were present.

PRUSSIA.

Count Bismarck was defeated on Wednesday in the North German Parliament. A bill had been reintroduced by the Government referring to the public debt of the Confederation. An amendment was proposed to it making individual officials legally responsible for administrative shortcomings. Count Bismarck opposed this strongly, but on a division the amendment was carried by 131 to 114 votes. Thereupon the bill was withdrawn, and the official papers prophesy great inconvenience to the Confederation in consequence.

AUSTRIA.

The Empress of Austria gave birth to a Princess at five o'clock on Wednesday morning, at Buda. Her Majesty is doing well.

The committee on the Austrian Budget discussed, on Tuesday, the report submitted by the sub-committee. In opposition to the proposals of the report, it was decided to proceed to the consideration of the details of the Government bill for the conversion of the public debt. It was also resolved to endeavour to amend the bill in accordance with the following principles—namely, that the reduction of the interest on the public debt is unavoidable; that, if the conversion of the debt be effected by a plan including a reduction of the interest, the conversion must be made compulsory; and that the reduction of the interest shall be expressly stated in the bill. Dr. Brestel, the Minister of Finance, declared himself ready to accept any modification of his scheme which might be agreed upon by the House, excepting only a declaration of national bankruptcy. Dr. Berger hinted that the Cabinet would resign should a proposal to declare a national bankruptcy be adopted by the majority.

THE DANUBIAN PRINCIPALITIES.

According to the *Vienna New Free Press*, the persecution of the Jews in the principalities is not at an end. At Baken in Moldavia, nearly a hundred Israelites have been forced from their homes, and are wandering about the neighbouring villages in search of a temporary shelter. News to the same effect has been previously published; there is therefore great probability of its being true.

THE UNITED STATES.

In the impeachment trial the case for the President was opened by Judge Curtis in a long speech. He denied that the Tenure of Office Law was applicable to the case of Mr. Stanton, who was not appointed by Mr. Johnson, and whose appointment, under President Lincoln, was made in 1862, only commissioning him to hold office during the President's pleasure. The Senate confirmed that appointment; but it could not entitle Mr. Stanton to hold office until 1869, under a different President. The Tenure of Office Act admitted several constructions. Mr. Johnson had acted under the construction adopted in consonance with the views of the Cabinet and his constitutional advisers. The charge that Mr. Johnson had conspired to influence Major-General Grant to violate the Army Bill was based upon an assumption unsupported by evidence. Mr. Johnson's speeches did not denounce Congress, but only a dominant majority in that body. His addresses were a lawful exercise of the freedom of speech. Mr. Boutwell, one of the managers for the prosecution, replied to the arguments of the defence on Tuesday. In the course of a long speech he maintained that the evidence submitted by the prosecution had completely sustained the charges preferred. In conclusion he strongly urged the conviction of President Johnson.

On Monday the House of Representatives passed, by 99 votes against 5, a bill introduced by Mr. Banks relative to the naturalisation of immigrants to the United States. This bill enacts that any declaration or decision of officers of the United States Government which questions the right of expatriation is null and void; that all naturalised citizens of the United States while in foreign countries shall be entitled to the same protection as is now accorded to native-born citizens; and that, when any citizen of the United States is arrested by any foreign Government, and his release delayed or refused upon the allegation that naturalisation does not dissolve his allegiance to his native Sovereign, the President shall be empowered to order the arrest of any subject of such foreign Government who may be found within the jurisdiction of the United States.

A bill for the continuance of the Freedmen's Bureau has been introduced in the Senate, and also a bill providing that no persons shall serve as President for two terms.

General Grant has issued peremptory orders to the district commanders to break up the secret organisation known as the Ku Klux Klan.

The new Constitution providing negro suffrage has been defeated in Michigan.

The Pennsylvania Legislature have passed a resolution requesting the President to demand the restitution of the island of Alto Vela from San Domingo.

THE RIVER PLATE.

The Paraguayans, it seems, are not yet conquered. A telegram received in Liverpool on Tuesday, dated Buenos Ayres, March 14, says:—"The latest news from the seat of war indicates that the late success of the Brazilians will not terminate the struggle. It is possible the siege of Humaita may continue for three or four months longer."

JAPAN.

Intelligence from Japan announces that a boat's crew and officers belonging to the French man-of-war Duplex have been massacred at Osaka. The Japanese Government had offered satisfaction for the outrage, but all the foreign Ministers, except the representative of Great Britain, had hauled down their flags.

THE CYCLONE IN THE MAURITIUS.

The Duke of Marlborough has received the following despatch from Sir H. Barkly, Governor of Mauritius, in reference to the late cyclone in that island:—

Mauritius, March 17, 1868.

My Lord Duke.—It is with the deepest concern I report that one of the most violent and destructive hurricanes ever experienced in these latitudes occurred here on the 11th and 12th instant.

2. The season has throughout been unusually stormy: on Dec. 13, and again on Jan. 3 and 17, successive cyclones passed over the island; but, excepting a few sugar factories unroofed, a good many labourers' huts blown down, and some sad maritime disasters on the coast, no very serious damage was sustained on any of these occasions.

3. The weather during February continued tempestuous, though not sufficiently so to hurt the sugar-canes, which grew so luxuriantly from the combined effects of heat and moisture that by the beginning of March they were as tall and heavy as they usually are in May.

4. On the morning of the 11th inst., however, the barometer, which had been for several days below 30 deg., began steadily to descend further, and the strength of the south-east trades to increase. This lasted all day and throughout the night; but it was not until noon of the 12th that the full fury of the gale was felt, the wind beginning about the same time to veer in tremendous gusts towards the north, reaching before sunset the opposite point of the compass from which it had started—the north-west. Its force during this rotary movement was well-nigh irresistible. The canes were levelled like grass, the largest trees torn up by the roots or broken off short at 15 ft. or 20 ft. from the ground; church towers and belfries fell; mansions of the bettermost class collapsed over their affrighted inmates, or were stripped wholly or partly of their roofing; whilst the camps of estates' labourers and the shops and dwellings of the general population, both in town and country, were literally blown to pieces.

5. The Government House of Réduit, which, though nearly 1000 ft. above the level of the sea, is so well sheltered as to have braved the worst blasts for nearly a century comparatively unharmed, lost the roof of one wing as if by the stroke of an enchanter's wand, and suffered grievous dilapidations otherwise.

6. In Port Louis, out of upwards of fifty vessels in the harbour, three alone escaped without damage; seven were dismantled, and thirteen driven ashore, including the Union Company's steamer *Mauritius*, which is expected to be abandoned. No wrecks are yet known, but several coasters are supposed to have foundered. The three principal dock companies are stated to have each sustained losses to the extent of 100,000 dolars. In the town itself three churches—two Protestant (one of iron and one of stone) and one Roman Catholic—were reduced to ruins, and hundreds of houses were destroyed. The gasworks are expected to be closed for a month at least, and there are scarcely any of the public buildings that have not more or less suffered.

7. But it is on the railways that the greatest amount of damage has been done, every station on both lines having been unroofed with the exception of the central terminus, where the passenger-house and carriage-shed have done the greatest credit to Mr. Connal's engineering and architectural skill. Two spans of the Grand River iron viaduct, each measuring 126 ft. in length and weighing, I believe, nearly as many tons, were actually lifted off the piers and hurled into the ravine below, where they lie at an angle of at least 10 deg. to the direction of the railway. At the workshops on Plaine Lawson the havoc was even greater; not only the whole of the wooden buildings having been levelled with the ground, and the goods-waggons which were standing on the line turned over on their sides, but the huge iron doors of the engine-repairing shed were burst open (though shored up by every means from within) with such violence as to cause the crown of the arch above them to give way and the massive stone walls and the girders of the roof to fall, burying the whole of the machinery, and one of the large eight-wheel locomotives in the ruins. A better illustration of the force of the wind cannot perhaps be given than the fact that I saw yesterday one of the wings of these doors, above a ton and a quarter in weight, lying twisted and shattered on the grass on the further side of the line of rails leading past the workshops, and at least twenty feet from its original position. It had been fortunately decided beforehand not to attempt to run trains during a cyclone, so that no accident happened as regards the traffic. That on the north line was, I am glad to say, resumed the day after the storm, whilst on the Midland passenger trains from Masebourg to Coromandel are now running, five engines having fortunately been on the further side of the Grand River viaduct. The interruption of the goods traffic on this line must be, I fear, of long duration, and the loss of revenue thereby will probably exceed the cost of the repairs.

8. The extent of damage to the ordinary roads and bridges is not yet ascertained, accounts not having been received from some districts; but it is known to be very considerable.

9. The injury to the sugar cultivation has been enormous, the diminution in the probable yield being variously estimated by planters at from 15 to 30 per cent, which, as a magnificent crop of not less than 150,000 tons was confidently relied on, represents at the lowest a loss of not far short of half a million sterling. Much, however, will depend on the nature of the weather during the next six weeks, and if rain in moderation continues to fall the canes may in a great degree recover.

10. Unfortunately, on most estates the mills and boiling-houses have more or less suffered, and on not a few they are reported to be totally destroyed, the vacuum-pans, centrifugal machines, and other beautiful and expensive machinery used in this colony, being overwhelmed by the falling materials of the buildings. There is still time before the commencement of the crop to remedy most of these losses; but it is to be feared that some planters will not have the means or credit to do so, and that the distress of the agricultural interest will be fearfully aggravated.

11. This must increase the destitution and misery of the rest of the community, which had previously arrived at a terrible pitch, and I almost shrink from contemplating the sad prospects before us—for some months to come at any rate.

12. I deem it no exaggeration, from what I have seen and from the reports I have received from the police, to state that the day after the hurricane there were fully 50,000 persons in various parts of the island absolutely homeless, and exposed to the still inclement weather, a large proportion suffering from the epidemic, and many maimed and injured from the fall of their habitations. This will, no doubt, for some time to come swell the returns of mortality.

13. The loss of life during the storm must have been very considerable; thirty bodies were extricated by the police from the ruins of houses in Port Louis alone, and the Inspector General informs me that the number as yet reported throughout the whole island cannot be less than one hundred, exclusive of those drowned and wrecked upon the coast. Many of the casualties were of a most deplorable character. Two of the Christian brethren (Frères de la Doctrine Chrétienne), together with two of their pupils, and it is supposed several other persons, were killed by the downfall of their chapel in Port Louis, and two other brethren severely wounded. Several Indians were also buried in the ruins of the Rev. Mr. Ansozge's and the Rev. Mr. Huxtable's churches, where they had taken refuge.

14. I need hardly assure your Grace that everything in my power is being done, with the aid of the municipality, the General Board of Health, and the police force, to alleviate the sufferings of a community thus more cruelly than ever afflicted, and at the same time to guard, as far as possible, against further deterioration in its sanitary condition.

15. The new Mayor, Mr. François, has been most active in his endeavours to get the town cleared of the debris of houses and trees, by which the streets were, in many cases, impeded and the watercourses and drains choked. Bands of prisoners and vagrants, numbering between 300 and 400, have been for some days past at work, under the charge of the Inspector-general of police, Major O'Brien, whose exertions are beyond all praise; and it is hoped that by the end of the present week the whole of the rubbish and filth which has accumulated will be carted away.

16. The communication with the out-districts, where interrupted, will also be in a short time provisionally restored, and the courthouses, gaols, police stations, hospitals, and other public buildings, rendered fit for occupation under the direction of the acting surveyor-general; but to make good all the damages which have taken place in these respects will require a very large sum of money, and I am afraid that in the present state of the finances, and with the impossibility of imposing further taxation, recourse must be had to a loan.

17. On this point, as well as with respect to the steps to be adopted to restore the railways to working order, I shall address your Grace separately, as soon as detailed statements and estimates from the respective officers come in. Meanwhile, I must conclude this hurried and imperfect account, in order that it may be in time for the mail of to-morrow, but as each hour brings fresh intelligence from the country districts, I will inclose in it the latest reports that reach me, including those published in the public journals of to-morrow, so as to place her Majesty's Government at once in possession of the fullest and latest particulars of the sad catastrophe which has befallen this once flourishing colony.

MARRIAGE CUSTOMS AND COSTUMES

IN RIZANO, SERBIA.

The inhabitants of Rizano, who live by trading with the neighbouring Turkish provinces, belong almost entirely to the Greek Church, and have retained their national costume, together with the language and customs of their forefathers in their entirety, to the present day.

In the neighbouring province of Montenegro it is still the custom for the youngest children to be betrothed by their parents; but in Serbia it is seldom that a father chooses a wife for his son; he has, however, to make the preliminary advances for the youth, which he does by calling on the chosen one's parents and representing that he has a son smitten with the graces of their daughter. A week's time is generally taken or allowed to consider so important an announcement; at the expiration of which, if the suit be acceptable, an exchange of presents takes place on a most liberal scale and in this way most marriages in Serbia are brought about.

Our Engraving represents a bridal procession returning the customary and complimentary small mortar salutes with their firearms, on the road leading from the church. The wedding costume is perhaps almost unequalled for its showiness. The men's dress may be described as follows:—White stockings; white or black silk breeches, which fall in ample plaits to the knee, where they are fastened by gold bands; a waistcoat of red silk, opening slantingly, and ornamented with an edging of silver-gilt coins; a coat of the finest green cloth reaching to the knee, the arms of which are lined with red and trimmed with buttons and fringe of gold; a red silk scarf round the loins, covering a leather belt, into which are thrust silver-mounted pistols and dagger; loosely over all is thrown a jacket, without sleeves, of red velvet, trimmed with gilt coins and buttons. Heavy silver-gilt sword and cartouche-box are borne by leather straps mounted with silver; red gaiters, richly embroidered with gold, reach to the feet, which are incased in shoes of red or black; a showy neckcloth, loosely tied; a red velvet cap, with heavy golden tassel; an embroidered tobacco-pouch of red silk hanging from the right side, a long Turkish pipe, and a handsome gun, finish the toilet.

The ladies' costume is scarcely less gorgeous, and consists of a white chemisette, bound with red and edged with gold lace; a jacket of red velvet, the sleeves of which are slashed and trimmed with filigree buttons; a plaited skirt of red silk, with broad gold lace, is sustained by means of braces of gold braid, over which is worn an apron of red silk, trimmed with gold lace. The waistband consists, at the back, of gold braid; in front, of massive gold, with jewels; and from each shoulder, crossing the breast to the waistband, are dependent wide gold plates, hooked one in the other. The head-dress is formed of gold and silver hairpins, which are stuck into the back hair so thickly as to form a perfect helmet, and entirely hide the hair from view; over these is thrown a piece of the finest embroidered cambric, trimmed with gold edging. The front hair is worn in two plaits, fastened on the left side by two pins, one gold, in the form of a sword, and the other silver, in the shape of a flower. Embroidered wristbands, earrings of gold with pearls, a gold brooch, rings on every finger, and the indispensable golden dagger and doubloon, suspended to a golden chain, complete the dress.

A SUABIAN FAMILY.

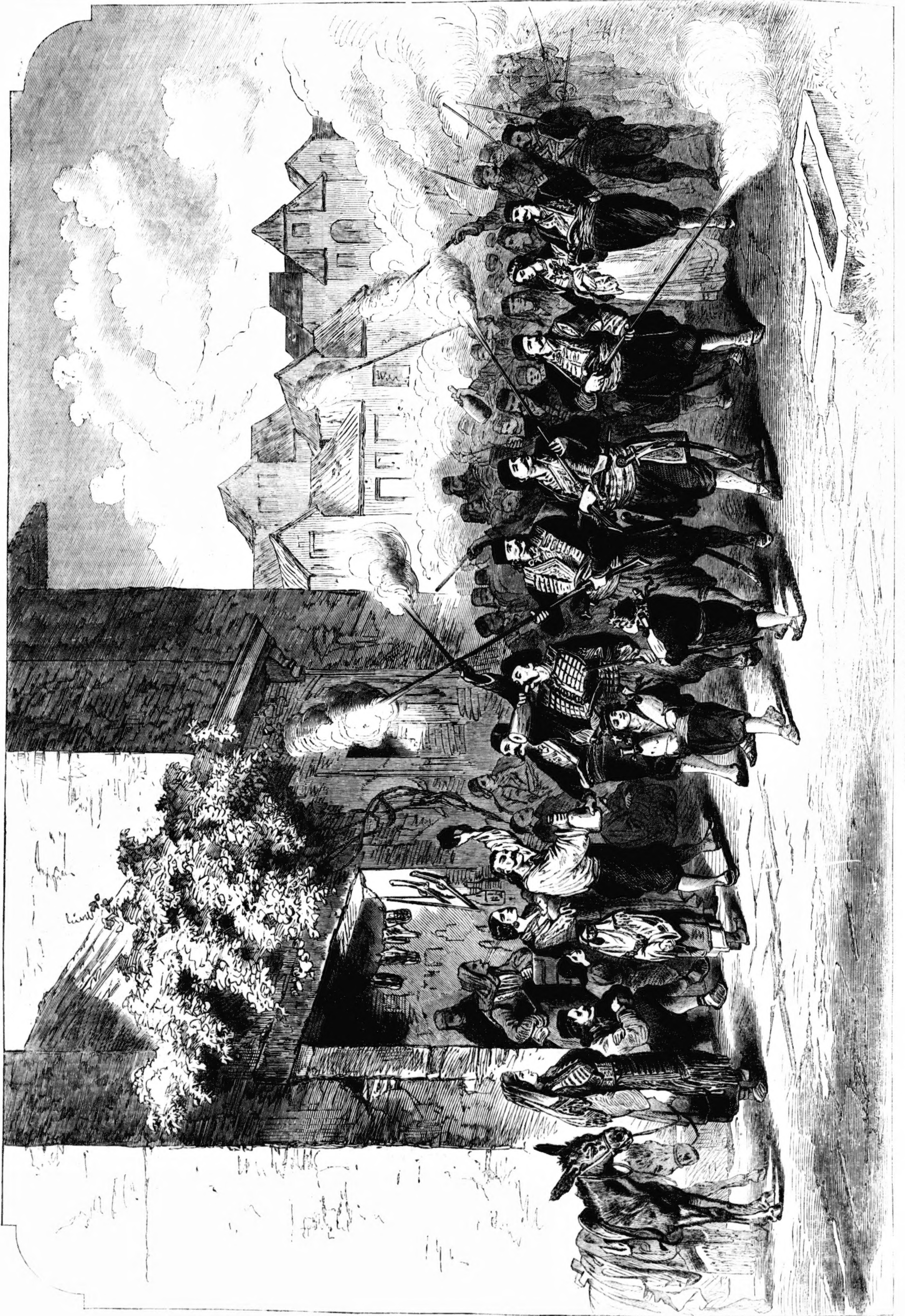
THERE is no such place now as Swabia, known as a geographical distinction; for that once powerful dukedom was merged long ago in Württemberg, Baden, and part of Bavaria. Formerly, however—that is to say, before 1806—Swabia was one of the divisions of Germany; and far earlier than that, again, it was one of the greatest and strongest of the States, until the Guelphic wars broke its power, and it was absorbed into the Confederation.

The traveller who can afford the time to wander eccentrically about the queer old towns, and to take road and line to the streams that lie in the route to the Franconian Switzerland, there to fish for trout, will see the originals of our Illustration; for the Illustration itself was made by an artist who had fully studied the people of this quaint district—the district of long-skirted coats, baggy breeches, ponderous boots, and beery revels. We have already published certain Engravings relative to the manners and customs of the Württembergers, and our present Engraving illustrates the home life of their neighbours—a life with very little about it that is sordid; for many of the comfortable, quaint old houses, with their solid decorations of wood and their timber ceilings, are as good quarters as any wherein a tired wayfarer need desire to rest on a summer's day; and they are full of solid furniture, too—heirlooms that have come through who shall say how many generations, with the great-grandfather's chair and the great-grandmother's big linen-chest.

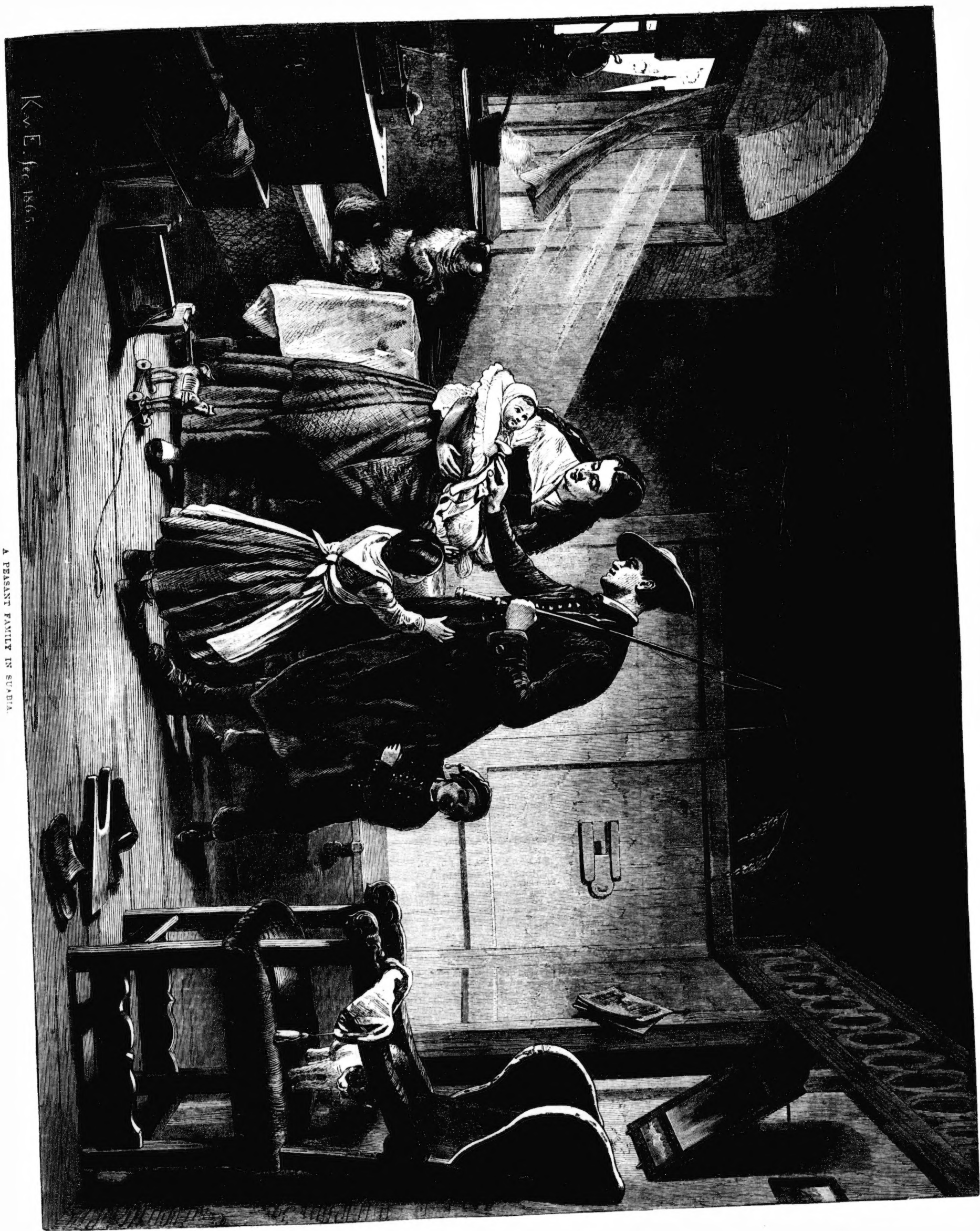
INCOME OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.—It seems probable that the idea of a residence in Ireland will be made the pretext for an increase in the allowance granted by Parliament to the Prince of Wales. We trust this is not the case. Such a bargain would take away all grace from the concession, and leave on the minds of Irishmen an impression that the Heir to the Throne would not reside among them unless well paid for the sacrifice. Considering the incomes of the nobles amongst whom he must live, the Prince's income is not large; and, despite the enormous wealth of the Sovereign—wealth quite without precedent in our annals—Parliament might fairly be asked for another grant. But there should be no attempt to connect the demand with this Irish visit, or with the "loyalty" of any political party whatever. It should be made fairly and distinctly on the ground that the splendour of the monarchy must, while it endures, be fittingly supported.—*Spectator*.

A ROMANIST VIEW OF THE "CONSPIRACY."—Mr. Disraeli must have known that he was writing utter nonsense when he penned the letter which is published with his signature attached, and addressed to the Vicar of Addington. The absurdity of saying that there is a combination between those whom the Prime Minister is pleased to contemptuously term "the Irish Romanists" and any section of the Established Church, whether "extreme" or otherwise, carries its own contradiction. Every newspaper in England, save the few who look on Mr. Disraeli as their political leader, has laughed and made fun of what seems to have been invented for the Protestant Electoral Union to turn into capital. Curiously enough the *Church News* calls the letter an admirable production; and therefore, we suppose, adopts the idea of the right hon. gentleman. If so, it is but an additional proof of the bitter hatred which the High Church party bear towards Catholics, whose name they appropriate, whose doctrines they pretend to adopt, and whose ritual they try to ape.—*Weekly Register*.

THE WAR IN ABYSSINIA.—Most stirring news from Abyssinia, dated April 1, reached the India Office on Tuesday. Sir Robert Napier has led his army clear through the terrible defiles of Lasta, and has plunged into the heart of Wadela. After marching from Lat, and ascending the mountains, he left the Tellaire on his right hand, found a path over the highest peaks, threaded the Tacazze near its source, and encamped, on March 25, at Deldei, the gateway into the southern country, and the sole practicable pass in that district. Dr. Krapf says that Deldei, in Amharic, means "bridge," and that it is a famous point of concentration for traders going north or south. The road down the southern side of the pass leads to Enade and Mochet, villages which were entered on the 26th and 27th. Somewhere south of Mochet, perhaps near Sanka, Sir Robert wheeled to the right, and, boldly ascending the plateau of Wadela, he guided his troops into a region the topography of which is not marked on the maps. Hitherto he had been marching south; now he turned south-west, and directed his steps towards the Jidda and Bashilo rivers, which rise to the north of Worra, among whose terraced masses stands the famous prison, Magdala. On April 1 the leading brigade was ten miles from the banks of the Jidda, and the second brigade was twelve miles in the rear. The intention of the Commander-in-Chief was to cross the Jidda and concentrate the army at "Sindiy," on the left bank; in other words, to occupy a decisive strategical point on the Daont Talanta plateau. The striking character of Sir Robert Napier's movement will not escape the notice of those who have studied the facts of the campaign. It will be seen that the British commander has audaciously thrust his forces across Theodore's line of retreat upon Debra Tabor. Sweeping down from the Lasta mountains, Sir Robert possessed himself of the very road which the Abyssinian King had made for the passage of his big guns; and the English leader designed to repair that road pending the concentration of his army. Theodore, on April 2, had no line of retreat open to him except into Shoa, the land of his declared enemy, or into the Godjam, whose late ruler successfully defied his power. By occupying the right bank of the Bashilo and the road to Debra Tabor, Sir Robert Napier has reduced his antagonist to the possession of Magdala. The presence of the British troops had already been felt in the tyrant's stronghold, for we learn that, even before our soldiers had passed Deldei, Mr. Rassam had been "released from chains and civility treated." Private letters from Abyssinia state that the hope was generally entertained that the captives would be released. A rumour was in fact current at Zulla that their release had already been effected.



MARRIAGE CUSTOMS AND COSTUMES OF SERBIA.



K. & E. fecit 1865.

A PEASANT FAMILY IN SUDRIA.

INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 328.

THE NEW PEERS—LORD KESTIVEN AND HOLLAND.

SIR JOHN TROLLOPE, BART., Sir Brook William Bridges, Bart., and Sir John Benn Walsh, Bart., have left the House of Commons at last. Rumour, some month or two ago, pointed to them as future peers. At last it was authoritatively announced that her most gracious Majesty had been moved and had consented to call them to the Upper House. And now the deed is done; and whatever light these three shed in the Lower House is quenched for ever. Sir John Trollope was, some years ago, by far the most frequent talker of the three. He was, in the great corn-law debates, very often upon his legs. He was a Protectionist, of course; and if he did not do much in the way of argument to defend Protection, he certainly deserves the credit of having, by many long, vacuous speeches, retarded the settlement of the question. Sir John has sat in the House of Commons, always for South Lincolnshire, twenty-seven years, and will be remembered until time shall obliterate his image entirely from our minds as the bean ideal of a country squire. He is tall, well made, sturdily built, with a good-looking face, if there were but more of the light of intellect there. Fluent of speech, though the speech was not very correct; utterly illogical; very courteous in manner, and not, as a rule, ungenerous to his opponents—in short, a pattern English squire of the true Lincolnshire breed. Sir John has not of late years attended the House very closely. He is sixty-eight years old, and country members as they approach three score and ten almost always relax their attendance. Borough members, especially if their boroughs be populous, must be in harness to the very last. Sir John is now Baron Kesteven and Holland. In common talk, Sir John was the representative of South Lincolnshire; but in official style he represented the parts of Kesteven and Holland—two "parts" in Lincolnshire so called which form the district of South Lincolnshire.

LORD FITZWALTER.

Sir Brook William Bridges goes up to the House of Peers as Baron Fitzwalter. Burke could probably tell us why this old Norman title—for such, we suppose, it is—is thus revived. And if any of our readers wish to know, to Burke's heraldic and genealogical works we must refer them. Perhaps this title was once in the family of the Bridges, or in some branch of it, more or less collateral, or is said to have been. However this may be we know not, and, in truth, do not much care to know; for genealogy, because of its uncertainty, if for no other reason, does not interest us much. In the remote past there was probably a Baron Fitzwalter. By steadily looking, you can see the shadowy Baron and possibly see, or imagine you can see, a filmy line of connection between him and Sir Brook, and that is enough; let the title be revived and given to Sir Brook; and may Heaven be pleased to grant that it may descend to times as remote forwards as the old shadowy Barony is in the past, until it also becomes extinct, as it must inevitably do, to be revived, perhaps, again many centuries hence, if titles should exist for centuries more! Questionable this, perhaps, seeing the rapid pace at which we are now travelling, and especially seeing that peers now, whilst they are still so jealous about their honours, are so neglectful in the performance of their duties. But we wander from our point. Sir Brook Bridges was first elected for East Kent in February, 1852, when pious Plumptre accepted the Chiltern Hundreds; but in July, 1852, there was a general election, and then Sir Brook was defeated. In 1857, however, he recovered his seat, and has kept it ever since. Sir Brook never was a notable man in the House of Commons. He has always been a constant attendant, and is one of the best known of our silent members, chiefly for this reason—he adheres still to the blue tailed-coat and brass buttons. In 1865, when we saw that John Morgan Cobbett was defeated at Oldham, we thought that Sir Brook would in this respect stand alone in his glory; but in that year Queen's County restored the Right Hon. John Wilson Fitzpatrick to the House, who always sports the blue and brass. But now Sir Brook has vanished—gone to glitter in another and higher sphere, and the right hon. member for Queen's County is left alone in the glory of the antiquated costume.

LORD ORMATHWAITE.

Sir John Benn Walsh, who has mounted to the empyrean of nobility and taken his seat there as Lord Ormathwaite, was one of our oldest members. He represented Sudbury from 1830 to 1834. Again from 1839 to 1840; and since the last-mentioned year he has sat for Radnorshire, in which small county the Walshes have been for many years inextinguishable sovereigns; and they mean to retain their supremacy, for Arthur Walsh, son of Sir John, who came in for Leominster in 1865, has accepted the Hundreds, that he may take the seat vacated by his father. The Walshes are great swells, very rich, and highly connected. Sir John married a daughter of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington; Arthur, the son, a daughter of the late Duke of Beaufort. In this way the family tree has covered itself with glory. But in no other way that we could ever learn. Sir John wrote a book a great many years ago. He may have written others; but one, entitled "Chapters in Contemporary History," certainly stands to his credit in the great literary ledger; but how it is priced there we know not—at no very high figure, we imagine. Perhaps, indeed, it may have been obliterated as a thing of no value. In the House Sir John never shone with splendour; he did occasionally twinkle, but it was only dimly or fuliginously, as Carlyle would say, and latterly scarcely at all. Indeed, there was no temptation for him to exhibit his small light; for the House generally failed to see or refused to recognise it. Sometimes, indeed, when it was turned on at inopportune times, the House would clamour to have the "glim dowsed." In short, Sir John never was an attractive speaker. In *Dod* he labelled himself a Liberal Conservative; but in truth, as most Liberal Conservatives are, he was vastly more Conservative than Liberal; and when a party fight was on, he was pretty sure to be found conspicuous in the Conservative ranks. These three old members, then, have gone from the House of Commons—silently dropped out. Shall we miss them? No! When a great debater dies it is said he will be missed in the House of Commons, and, for a time, we do miss him. We missed for a time Sir George Cornwall Lewis, Sir James Graham, Richard Cobden, Lord Palmerston. But how little we think of these men now! For a time there seemed to be a void which never could be filled. But the time was but short. The work here is so incessant and varied, the mind of the House is so fully occupied, that we have no leisure to miss anybody. On board a ship in a battle or a storm when a comrade falls, he is dropped into the sea and forgotten. He may, though, be remembered again when peace and calm return; but in the House, from February to August, there is no leisure. If such great men as these whom we have named are not long missed, such lesser lights as these Baronets now made peers will be quenched with scarcely any notice.

A COOL HAND.

Since the Easter holidays the proceedings of the House have been not only dull, but insipid. The House met on Monday. Rumour had murmured, though but hesitatingly, that we should have an explanation from the Premier on that night. But on entering the House at half-past four we saw that there would be none. If the Premier had intended to "make a statement" his intention would certainly have been made known. He would have given notice to the leader of the Opposition. Gladstone would have sent notice to Mr. Glyn, the chief Liberal whip, and he would by circular have transmitted it to every member of his party. Such is the courtesy practised by political belligerents here. And, of course, before 4.30 the House would have been full. But at that hour the House was very thinly attended; and by that token we knew at once that there would be no ministerial explanation. And there was none. Some of the members, though, had come down, fully expecting that something would be said about the future policy of the Government; and, when they learned that nothing would be said, they could not help muttering and grumbling out in monotonous their surprise. And certainly it was strange, very strange, perhaps unprecedented. On the eve of the Easter holidays the Government was defeated on a most important question—one would say a vital question—by a very large majority. When the majority was announced that Saturday

morning many thought that the House would sit on Monday in order that Disraeli might make known what course he meant to take; and, when it was discovered that he did not intend to do this, men said, "Well, we must have an explanation the first day after the holidays." But, as we have said, none was given. Mr. Disraeli walked into the House about 4.30, as cool and calm as if nothing had happened; and the other Ministers, with their boxes in their hands, with equal coolness, followed the example of their chief. "On Tuesday then, perhaps, we shall have this explanation," we said; and our readers will remember that the Thunderer of Printing House-square on that morning gave voice, urging the Government to give an explanation, and asserting that, failing a voluntary explanation, one ought to be demanded. "Surely," said we, as we read that article, and hundreds, no doubt, said the same, "something must be said to-night." There was, too, a Cabinet meeting somewhat suddenly summoned for that day; and, on the whole, it was thought by many that at half-past four Disraeli would rise, and lay before the House his policy. And, when the House met, there was a much larger attendance than on Monday. Besides this, there were other auguries observable. Gladstone, who was not present on Monday, came rushing into the House, in his impetuous way, looking, if not excited, very lively. Then, immediately afterwards, the Premier and a couple of Cabinet Ministers entered and took their seats. "Ah!" said we, as we marked all this, "we are to have something to-night. The Premier will probably voluntarily give a statement; but if not, Gladstone means to compel him to speak. One or the other will certainly rise, when the questions are over and the regular business of the night shall be called;" and patiently we waited till that time should arrive. The first notice of motion was, "Mr. Shaw Lefevre to move for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the property of married women." And when Mr. Speaker was about to call upon the hon. member, we looked at the Treasury Bench for a sign, but there was none. Disraeli sat cold, impassive, immovable, with his eyes fixed upon the floor. We turned to the Opposition bench, but neither was there any movement there. "Mr. Lefevre," said the Speaker, and at once Mr. Lefevre arose and began his speech. The House was well filled at the time; but as soon as Mr. Lefevre's voice was heard half the members rose and wandered away, to discuss in knots and clusters this strange state of affairs, and everywhere we heard snatches of talk like this—"Cool this." "Very." "It is unprecedented, is it not?" "I never remember anything like it." "He does not mean to go out?" "Nor dissolve?" "Dissolve! No." Meanwhile in the House the business went on calmly and quietly. Lefevre, as his manner is, lucidly and logically unfolding his subject to some fifty members, all listening or appearing to listen, with quiet if not profound attention, reminding us of the Italian peasants near Vesuvius, who go on coolly with their work, albeit the mountain only the other day spouted fire and lava, and may at any moment explode again.

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, APRIL 20.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

NEW MEMBERS AND NEW WAITS.

On the House reassembling after the expiration of the Easter holidays, Mr. Carleton took his seat for High Wycombe and Mr. Lopes his seat for Launceston. New writs were ordered to issue for the election of a member for Cokermonth, in the room of Mr. J. Steel, deceased; for South Lincolnshire, in the room of Sir J. Trollope; for East Kent, in the room of Sir B. Bridges; for Radnorshire, in the room of Sir J. Walsh—all of whom have been created Peers; and for Leominster, in the room of Mr. A. Walsh, resigned.

IRRIGATION IN INDIA.

MR. SMOLLETT raised a discussion as to the dealings of the Indian Government with the Madras Irrigation Company and the East India Irrigation and Canal Company. He criticised with much severity the practical results of the operations of those companies, and moved a resolution condemning as impolitic the system of supporting those private enterprises by enormous grants of public money drawn from the Indian Treasury.

SIR S. NORTHCOTE, while admitting the general impolicy of a system of grants and guarantees, defended the action of the Government in these particular cases as best calculated to promote important works of irrigation. The motion was ultimately withdrawn.

CEYLON.

MR. WATKIN moved for a Committee to inquire into the condition of Ceylon and the action of its government, basing his motion on the decay and depopulation of the colony, and on the injudicious system of taxation, of which he gave numerous proofs.

The motion was resisted by MR. ADDERLEY, who maintained that the only cause of complaint the colonists had was being compelled to bear a fair share of their military expenditure, and showed the inaccuracy of some of Mr. Watkin's statements as to the decay of the colony.

MR. ALDERMAN LUSK and MR. GORST supported the motion; and, after some observations from MR. CHILDS, it was negatived without a division.

SUPPLY.—CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

Subsequently the House spent some hours in discussing, in Committee of Supply, the first class of the Civil Service Estimates—those relating to public works and buildings. No great progress was made, the first six votes only being agreed to.

The Boundary Bill was read the second time.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PROPERTY OF MARRIED WOMEN.

MR. LEFEVRE obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the law with respect to the property of married women, the object of which was so to alter the common law as to enable a wife to retain the portion which she might have possessed prior to marriage, and any money to which she might thereafter be entitled, whether by earnings or bequest, and that she might sue or be sued as a single woman, and not as *femme covert*.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

On the order for going into Committee on the Capital Punishment within Prisons Bill.

MR. GILPIN made an appeal to the House in favour of the total abolition of the punishment of death, and moved an amendment declaratory of the opinion of the House to that effect.

The amendment having been seconded by MR. LEEMAN, MR. GREGORY reminded the House that the question before it was not that of softening the heart or saving the soul of an assassin, but preventing the Queen's subjects being murdered; and he argued that the balance of all authority was on the side of the conclusion that the punishment of death was the only effective deterrent of crime.

MR. NEATE supported the amendment, whilst acknowledging the deterrent effects of the punishment of death.

MR. MILL spoke eloquently of the efforts of the philanthropists in ameliorating the severities of the criminal code until aggravated murder was the only crime visited with death. He defended the infliction of capital punishment, however, upon the very ground on which it had been attacked, as being the least cruel mode of deterring from crime. It did its work at a less cost of human misery than any other; and whilst it inspired more terror, it was not so cruel in reality as any penalty that could be adopted as a substitute.

The House dividing, the amendment was negatived by 127 to 23. The bill was then committed, and, after a lengthened discussion of the clauses, was ordered to be reported with amendments.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

New writs were ordered for the election of a member for Bristol, in the room of Sir Morton Peto; and for the Stirling district of burghs, in the room of Mr. Oliphant, both resigned.

MR. MONSELL moved the second reading of the Burials (Ireland) Bill, the object of which is to enable persons of all denominations, whether Roman Catholics or others, to be interred in the parish churchyard, in accordance with the rites and by the ministers of their own faith.

The motion was met by Colonel Stuart, seconded by Mr. Lefroy, with an amendment that the bill be read the second time on that day six months. A short and sharp discussion followed, terminating in a division, which affirmed the second reading by 74 to 51.

The Sunday Trading Bill was moved on the second reading by Mr. T. Hughes. The measure was identically the same as that of last year, and was opposed by Mr. Freshfield, Mr. Taylor, and Mr. Graham. Upon a division, the bill was passed the stage by 65 to 31.

The Metropolis Subways Bill was passed through Committee.

The Edinburgh Annuity Tax Bill was opposed on the order for second reading, and, at the instance of the Lord Advocate, was thrown out, upon a division, by 86 to 59.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Earl of Derby attended the House for the first time since his serious illness, and was loudly cheered on presenting a petition.

THE ASSASSINATION IN CANADA.

The Earl of CARMARVON, in calling attention to the assassination of Mr. D'Arcy M'Gee in Canada, expressed his deep regret at the great loss that country had sustained by his death.

The Duke of BUCKINGHAM remarked that he had just received a despatch from the Governor-General, Lord Monck, announcing the sad event, and expressing the general opinion that the assassination was perpetrated by some member, or at the instance, of the Fenian organisation.

COMPULSORY CHURCH RATES ABOLITION BILL.

EARL RUSSELL, in moving the second reading of this bill, made a few remarks in its favour similar to what was advanced by Mr. Gladstone in the House of Commons.

The Duke of BUCKINGHAM observed that the noble Earl had left their Lordships without any facts in support of the preamble of the bill. If her Majesty's Government thought fit to take the opinion of the House on the bill upon its second reading, there would be difficulty from the preamble of the bill not having been proved. But circumstances had arisen which justified her Majesty's Government in asking the House to place the bill in the hands of a Select Committee.

After a long discussion, the bill was read the second time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BUDGET.

THE CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER rose to make his annual financial statement. He observed that the interest with which the statement was generally received was no doubt lessened by the necessity which arose in the autumn of making provision for the Abyssinian campaign. Last year the revenue of the coming year was estimated at 69,130,000*l.*, which, with 840,000*l.* added for additional income tax, amounted to 69,970,000*l.* The actual revenue, however, had only amounted to 69,600,000*l.*, or 370,000*l.* less than the sum estimated. An additional income tax of 2*d.* in the pound had been imposed; but it was imposed at an unusual period of the year, and had only produced about one half of the amount estimated. It had only produced 377,000*l.*, and in consequence of the reduction on marine insurance there had been a loss of 270,000*l.* Calculating that reduction, the real expansion of the revenue had amounted last year to 808,000*l.* The revenue of the year had been as follows:—Customs, 22,660,000*l.*; excise, 20,162,000*l.*; stamps, 9,541,000*l.*; taxes, 3,569,000*l.*; property and income tax, 6,177,000*l.*; Post Office, 4,630,000*l.*; Crown lands, 345,000*l.*; miscellaneous, 2,586,000*l.*; total, 69,610,000*l.* There was an increase in the customs returns over the estimate of last year of 650,000*l.*, and a deficit in the excise of 513,000*l.* The customs duty on foreign spirits showed an increase of 226,000*l.*, principally under the head of Geneva and other spirits; but there had been a falling off in the duty on rum. There was also an increase in the excise duty upon the sugar used by brewers, which amounted to upwards of 30,000*l.* There had been a decrease of upwards of 300,000*l.* upon the income tax, which rose principally from uncollected arrears; and there had also been a decrease of 14,000*l.* upon miscellaneous items. The right hon. gentleman entered into details to show the mode in which the various items in the estimate of last year had increased or decreased. The dog duty, estimated at 300,000*l.*, had yielded 256,000*l.* The dogs charged under the old system, in 1867 were 445,945. The excise licenses issued up to Dec. 31 last were 822,841, and the number already issued in the present year was 637,000. The success of this alteration suggested, he thought, that the same principle should be applied to all the assessed taxes in future. The expenditure for the year had been as follows:—Interest of debt, 26,571,750*l.*; Consolidated Fund, 1,898,000*l.*; Army, 15,418,592*l.*; Navy, 11,168,949*l.*; miscellaneous, 8,491,342*l.*; revenue department, 4,883,000*l.*; Post Office and packet service, 888,581*l.* The total expenditure, including the sum required for the Abyssinian expedition, was 71,236,242*l.*, or 51,000*l.* more than the estimate stated to the House by Mr. Disraeli last year. The Abyssinian expedition was accounted for an additional excess of 2,000,000*l.*, and the total deficit upon the item of actual expenditure, as compared with the estimate, was 1,636,000*l.* Coming down to the present year, 1868, the estimated expenditure was:—Interest on Debt, 27,000,000*l.*; Consolidated Fund, 1,865,000*l.*; Army, 15,456,000*l.*; Navy, 11,177,000*l.*; Civil Services, 9,173,000*l.*; revenue department, 4,968,000*l.*; Post Office and packet service, 1,089,000*l.*; total, 70,428,000*l.* There had been an increase in respect of terminable annuities of 801,144*l.*, and of interest on life and property annuities of 47,000*l.* The apparent increase in the estimates was entirely due to a different mode of making up the accounts. On the Navy the real increase was only 10,000*l.*, and on the Army 200,000*l.*; while there had been a decrease in the Civil Service estimates of something over 400,000*l.* The estimated revenue of the year, assuming the tea duty and the income tax to be continued at their present figure, was calculated to be:—Customs, 22,800,000*l.*; excise, 20,330,000*l.*; stamps, 9,650,000*l.*; taxes, 3,540,000*l.*; property and income tax, at 4*d.* (including 1,007,000*l.* arrears), 6,309,000*l.*; Post Office, 4,650,000*l.*; Crown lands, 350,000*l.*; miscellaneous, 3,130,000*l.*; total, 71,350,000*l.* As the estimated expenditure was 70,428,000*l.*, there would be a surplus of 922,000*l.*; but it was right the Committee should understand that the whole of that surplus was included in the arrears of collection on the income tax. He came now to the extraordinary expenditure for the year, which was due to the Abyssinian war. There was no reason to suppose that the estimate given in November—namely, three and a half or four millions—would be exceeded. It was calculated that the cost up to the end of the year 1867 would amount to about two millions, and it was estimated that the additional expenditure would amount to about 600,000*l.* a month from Jan. 1 last. This sum was made up as follows:—Sea transport, 400,000*l.*; provision for troops, 28,000*l.*; provision for baggage department, 90,000*l.*; extra allowance for troops, 10,000*l.*; coal, 26,250*l.*; miscellaneous, 35,000*l.*; total, 589,250*l.* The accounts lately received from Abyssinia were very favourable; and it was believed that the expedition was going on very well. Sir R. Napier calculated that the results of the expedition would be accomplished, and that he would be turning homewards by April 20. Supposing that the expedition proved successful and that our troops were able to leave Africa by the end of May, the total cost of the expedition would be about five millions. Of this sum two millions were already provided for, and three millions additional expenditure would have to be incurred. He considered it undesirable that additional taxation should be placed upon articles of general consumption; and he proposed that the income tax should be raised to 6*d.* for the present year, which would realise 1,800,000*l.* from the increase agreed to in November last, and 1,100,000*l.* in the year to come. He further proposed that the Government should have power to issue Exchequer Bonds for one year to the amount of one million, which would anticipate the receipts from the extra income tax, and would fall into next year's account. There would then be available for the services of the country a surplus of 920,000*l.*, 1,800,000*l.* from additional income tax, and 1,000,000*l.* from the issue of Exchequer Bonds, producing altogether 3,720,000*l.* and leaving a surplus of revenue over estimated expenditure of 720,000*l.*

MR. GLADSTONE was of opinion that the propositions of the right hon. gentleman were simple and sound, and that the Government acted rightly in declining to interfere with the trade of the country by imposing indirect taxation. He thought, however, that there was this fallacy in the statement of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that the increased expenditure of the country was not due to the accident of an expedition to Abyssinia, but to a permanent increase in the military and naval establishments of the country. The war in Abyssinia was not contemplated at the close of last Session, and, if it had never occurred at all, it would have been necessary to provide this year for an increased expenditure.

MR. T. BARING feared that the precedent of resorting to the Income Tax to meet special expenses would not be neglected on similar occasions. After some further discussion the resolution was agreed to.

ON MONDAY a pillar supporting an arch in the Mesne Pit, Wigan, suddenly gave way, and three colliers who were working close by were buried beneath fifteen or twenty tons weight of displaced earth, &c. They were dead when extricated.

THE INQUEST on the body found in the house at Hackney-wick terminated on Tuesday with a verdict to the effect that the deceased, Heaseman, was a person of unsound mind, and that his death was caused by poison administered by himself. Mrs. Banks has declared herself satisfied that the body was that of Mr. Heaseman, and not that of her husband.

THE DEMIDOFF GALLERY, sold in Paris a few days ago, produced the magnificent sum of fifty-five thousand odd pounds; and, be it remembered, the whole gallery contained but twenty-three pictures. One *Ostade* was purchased at £4300, a *Paul Potter*, £4400; a forest scene, *Hobbema*, £4400; and a *Cuyp*, £5600. "The Congress of Munster," by *Lebrun*, was bought by M. Mannheim, as is supposed for Baron Rothschild, for £7280.

CORRUPTION IN THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE.—At the meeting of the Legislative Assembly of the State of New York, on the 1st inst., Mr. Glenn, a representative from Wayne county, read the following statement to the House:—"I, E. M. K. Glenn, a member of this House, from my seat in this House, do charge as follows:—1, I charge that a portion of the vote on the Erie Railroad Bill was bought; 2, I charge that a portion of the vote on this floor, in adopting the said report, was bought; 3, I charge that members of this House were engaged in buying their fellow-members; 4, I charge that a portion of the vote on the Harlem Milk Bill was bought; 5, I charge that some of the committees of this House charge for reports; 6, I charge corruption, deep, dark, and damning, on a portion of this House." After an excited debate, a committee was appointed to investigate the charges.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 1868.

THE PUNISHMENT OF DEATH.

THE recent debate on the Capital Punishment Within Prisons Bill, which naturally extended itself into a debate on capital punishment in general, gave Mr. Gilpin an opportunity of bringing forward all the well-known arguments that can be used in favour of abolishing the penalty; and, what most persons will consider more important, furnished Mr. Mill an opportunity of replying to them. The question was on this occasion fairly argued, and (which does not always happen) the speakers were quite agreed as to what they were arguing about. Many advocates of the abolition of capital punishment start from the assumption that society has no right to put its criminals to death at all; and Mr. Gilpin expressed some such feeling in the concluding sentences of his speech, in which he, for the first time, abandoned the practical, worldly view of the question to introduce considerations of a purely religious character. It had occurred to Mr. Gilpin that, if the soul of a murderer were saved, we only sent him to heaven the sooner by causing him to die before his time; whereas, if he died unrepentant, then, though intending only to put an end to his bodily life, we, in fact, destroyed his soul. But it was not until he had used all his valid arguments that he reasoned in this very original style. The business of legislators is not to consider how the future salvation of murderers may best be secured, but simply to adopt and maintain the most efficacious laws possible for deterring them from crime. Mr. Gilpin had begun by admitting this, and the argument from theology should have found no place in his speech at all. It was by mixing up the affairs of this world with those of the world to come that the burners of heretics justified their mode of action, which Mr. Gilpin certainly would be the last person in the world to defend. The members of the Inquisition did not hate the Jews, heretics, and schismatics whom they condemned to the stake. On the contrary, they loved them so much that they were resolved to save them at all hazards from the eternal perdition which but for the intervention of the ecclesiastical courts, armed with fire and sword, inevitably awaited them. They burned their bodies here that their souls and bodies might not be condemned to eternal torments hereafter.

The last speaker of all, Mr. Neate, took a not very religious but an extravagantly sentimental view of the question. He did not object to the infliction of capital punishment, but he disliked the idea of one man inflicting it on another, and proposed that the death of the criminal should be brought about by some chemical agency: carbonic acid gas, he thought, would be a good means. If not, modern science could no doubt furnish a more acceptable one. In any case, the use of the rope ought to be discontinued. So great is Mr. Neate's objection to man being killed by man, that he "would even go so far as to allow the criminal to put an end to himself." But if the criminal, as sometimes happens under the existing system, should be unwilling to die? Then of course the old barbarous system of killing him would have to be resumed; but sentimentalists would at least be able to congratulate themselves on having given the murderer a chance of making a decent finish.

Perhaps the most important argument of all against the abolition of capital punishment, and certainly the most novel, is one which M. Prévost-Paradol was, we believe, the first to make use of, and which is derived from the difficulty, in the present day, in face of the general and constantly-increasing disposition to render the treatment of criminals as humane as possible, of substituting for the penalty of death some other punishment, which, while less severe, shall not in a still greater degree shock the sensitiveness of the public. This, at first, looks like a paradox; but it is indisputably true that to hang a man by the neck until he is dead is not looked upon and probably is not so grievous an insult to human nature as to expose him in the pillory or to flog him publicly. Besides, as a simple question of history, corporal punishment is being abolished in Europe; while the punishment of death in all the principal countries is still in force. It is only in England, we believe, that, in regard to capital punishment, there has been a movement in a contrary direction; and, if flogging has been reintroduced as an appropriate penalty for crimes of violence in civil cases, it must be remembered that flogging in the Army has been abolished altogether. In fact, it may be said that the only punishments now recognised in civilised countries are imprisonment, with or without hard labour, and the punishment of death. Even in Russia the use of that instrument of torture, the knout, has been done away with; but, on the other hand, the punishment of death has been introduced; and its introduction must really be looked upon as a sign of progress.

The French military code punishes with death offences which, until the other day, were punished in the English Army with the cat-o'-nine-tails: and this precisely because the French are, or claim to be, more humane than ourselves.

In the meanwhile, as regards civil cases, it must be observed that the life of a prisoner accused of a capital offence is already to a great extent in the hands of the jury; and that the Judge and jury together can always save him from the last penalty of the law. The "recommendation to mercy" has not quite the same effect as the recognition of "extenuating circumstances" in France, which, in reality, reduces a verdict of murder to one of manslaughter. But the abolition of capital punishment has already taken place in so far that that punishment is now never inflicted except for cases of murder with what may be called not extenuating but aggravating circumstances. That it should be altogether abolished is the wish neither of the country nor of any large section of thinkers in or out of Parliament.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN has named Wednesday, May 13, at half-past eleven o'clock, for the ceremony of laying the first stone of the new St. Thomas's Hospital.

THE POPE has found some means of influencing the Kaiser, for he has not yet signed the Civil Marriage Bill, and, it is reported, hesitates to break so completely with Rome.

MR. SEWARD has suggested to Mr. Thornton that Great Britain and the United States should settle their differences relating to the rights of naturalised citizens by mutual legislation.

THE ALBERT MEMORIAL MUSEUM AT EXETER, which has been erected at a cost of £12,000, was opened on Monday; and during the week there has been a grand fancy fair, besides a host of festivities in celebration of the event.

MR. LAWRENCE OLIPHANT has accepted the Stewardship of the Chiltern Hundreds, and the writ for the Stirling Burghs was moved for on Wednesday.

CHAMPAGNE FROM PETROLEUM is one of the newest inventions of dishonest chemistry.

VISCOUNT INGESTRE, late M.P. for South Staffordshire, is a candidate for the representation of Stamford, vacant by the removal of Viscount Cranborne to the Upper House.

THE REV. B. SPEKE has quite recovered from his erratic tendencies, and has been allowed by his medical adviser to return to his Vicarage and resume his former cure of souls.

MISS EDITH LITTON, who is now acting at the Princess's Theatre, is the eldest daughter of the Rev. E. A. Litton, Examining Chaplain to Bishop Baring of Durham, formerly Vice-Principal of St. Edmund Hall. The young lady is granddaughter of the Rev. Carus Wilson.

THE BOHEMIANS are organising for the 6th of July next a pilgrimage to Constance, where they propose to celebrate the 353rd anniversary of the martyrdom of John Huss.

A FREE LIBRARY, containing about 10,000 volumes, was opened in Nottingham on Monday.

PATRICK POLEY was brought up at Cork, on Tuesday afternoon, charged with being concerned in numerous Fenian depredations—amongst them the extensive robbery of revolvers from the shop of Messrs. Alport, in the principal street in that city, in the daytime.

SOME LEAVES OF Papyrus, bearing characters distinctly traced, have been discovered in Pompeii. These are the first specimens of the kind.

THE THIRD AND FOURTH VOLUMES of Mr. Kinglake's "History of the Invasion of the Crimea" will shortly be issued by Messrs. Blackwood.

THE LATE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY was buried, on Monday afternoon, in the family vault at Hatfield Church, Herts. The funeral was very simple. Many of the local clergy attended, out of respect to the memory of the deceased Marquis, together with a number of the principal tenants from the family estates in various counties.

THE MONT CENIS SUMMIT RAILWAY is to be opened in May. A number of engines and other material are now ready.

THOMAS DOYLE, of Buffalo, New York, has publicly advertised his wife as a prize to be raffled for. Tickets have been printed on which it is said, "This woman is a good housekeeper, and is willing to stay with anyone who may draw her. Tickets 25 cents." What action the authorities have taken has not yet been reported.

ARCHBISHOP MANNING has flatly contradicted the report that he has been deputed by the Pope to thank Mr. Gladstone for his action in regard to the Irish Church. Dr. Manning says that the report has not the shadow of a foundation.

AT HAIGH AND HEATON'S DYEWORKE, Milnsbridge, near Huddersfield, on Monday, the hydro-extractor, used to dry the wool, burst, killing Joseph Dyson, aged eighteen, and William Ashton, aged fifty. The machine was going at the rate of 900 revolutions per minute.

THE MORE RELIGIOUS PORTION OF THE SCOTCH PEOPLE, usually so ready to join in any "No-Popery" cry, are decidedly in favour of the disestablishment of the Irish Church.

A NEW FASHION is announced in Paris. Ladies carry their parasols—what we believe the technical name for the implement is an *en-tout-cas*—hitched to their sides like swords, which confers on them—especially if they wear hats and plumes, and high boots with high heels—a decidedly military appearance.

SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM was visited during Easter week by 31,800 persons. The average number in corresponding weeks of former years was 24,692.

EX-GOVERNOR EYRE appeared before Mr. Vaughan, at Bow-street, on Wednesday, to answer a summons charging him with having issued in Jamaica an illegal proclamation, and acted upon it after the necessity for any such proclamation had ceased. Some time was occupied in discussing a preliminary objection, and the hearing was then adjourned.

THE DEATHS IN LONDON LAST WEEK were 1539, which exceeded by ninety-two the estimated number, and were 265 above the number recorded in the preceding week. This is the worst return that has been made during the present year, as in no week previously has the estimated number been exceeded.

A GREAT MEETING, under the presidency of Mr. Bright, was held in Mr. Spurgeon's Tabernacle on Wednesday, when a resolution and a petition to Parliament in support of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions were unanimously adopted.

FIVE YOUNG MEN, the sons of farmers in the neighbourhood of Kirk-andrews, near Carlisle, were last Saturday convicted, by the magistrates in that city, of cockfighting, and fined 10s. each and costs. Two police officers caught them engaged in the cruel sport, and captured one of the game cocks, which was armed with a steel spur.

BARON VIDIL, who, it may be remembered, was sentenced to a year's imprisonment in England some time ago for an extraordinary attempt to murder his son—an imprisonment which he actually suffered in Newgate—died on Monday week at Dr. Dubois's Sanatorium, in Paris, aged fifty-eight.

A LOBE has been discovered on the banks of the River Don, in Tasmania, yielding cobalt, silver, copper, and antimony; an analysis, giving the result as of cobalt, 4 oz. to the ton; silver, 100 oz. to the ton; and copper, 14 per cent.

THE PARIS TRIBUNAL OF CORRECTIONAL POLICE has decided that the immunity promised to M. de Cassagnac for publishing the libels extends to M. de Kervegant for repeating them, and has, therefore, acquitted the latter of the charge brought against him by the slandered editors.

THE DISESTABLISHMENT OF THE IRISH CHURCH is regarded by all Americans with general satisfaction, and by none more than by Episcopalians, the most earnest of whom believe that, in the end, the power of the Church for good will be immeasurably promoted by the step.

ONE OF THE FRENCH LAW COURTS has just had to decide a singular question. A person recently deceased had left by will to a poor needlewoman, during her life, soup and boiled beef for every day in the year. The point to be established was the sum which such a legacy represented. The tribunal has fixed it at 1*fr.* 25c. per day.

THE HEALTH OF THE EMPRESS CHARLOTTE continues to improve so steadily that the best results are looked for. With the exception of certain fits of sullenness, the recurrence of which are daily becoming less and less, the Princess feels nothing of the painful malady from which she has been suffering. She sleeps well, and her appetite has returned, and with this a taste for study. Her Majesty passes almost the entire day in her reading and writing room, and she receives no one, except members of the Royal family.

THE MARQUIS OF SALISBURY does not intend to resign the Chairmanship of the Great Eastern Railway Company, as was expected. It is now stated that his Lordship feels it his duty to meet the confidence placed in him by continuing to devote his time to the interests of the company, and that he will remain at his post until the general and financial affairs of the undertaking shall have been brought to a satisfactory adjustment.

MR. GLADSTONE'S LETTER ON THE IRISH CHURCH IN 1865.

THE following letters appear in the *Guardian* of Wednesday night:—

"Sir,—I recently received, through the kindness of the Warden of Trinity College, Glenalmond, a copy, for the accuracy of which he makes himself responsible, of the letter which I addressed to him, previously to the dissolution in 1865, on the subject of the Established Church of Ireland; and I take the liberty of requesting you will print it, for the information of such of your readers as may have taken an interest favourable to me in the Oxford contest of that year. They will have the opportunity of comparing it, if they think fit, with the supposed 'extract' printed in a daily newspaper and quoted in the House of Commons.

"Of the letter itself I have only to say that I think it is in agreement with the speech I had delivered in the Session of 1865, and that it gives a true description of my sentiments as they then were.

"Hawarden, April 20, 1868.

"W. E. GLADSTONE."

"11, Carlton House-terrace, S.W., June 8, 1865.

"Dear Dr. Hannah,—It would be very difficult for me to subscribe to any interpretation of my speech on the Irish Church like that of your correspondent, which contains so many conditions and bases of a plan for dealing with a question apparently remote, and at the same time full of difficulties on every side. My reasons are, I think, plain. First, because the question is remote and apparently out of all bearing on the practical politics of the day, I think it would be for me worse than superfluous to determine upon any scheme or basis of a scheme with respect to it. Secondly, because it is difficult. Even if I anticipated any likelihood of being called upon to deal with it, I should think it right to make no decision beforehand on the mode of dealing with the difficulties. But the first reason is that which chiefly weighs. As far as I know, my speech signifies pretty clearly the broad distinction which I take between the abstract and the practical views of the subject. And I think I have stated strongly my sense of the responsibility attaching to the opening of such a question except in a state of things which gave promise of satisfactorily closing it. For this reason it is that I have been so silent about the matter, and may probably be so again; but I could not as a Minister and as member for Oxford allow it to be debated an indefinite number of times and remain silent. One thing, however, I may add, because I think it a clear landmark. In any measure dealing with the Irish Church, I think (though I scarcely expect ever to be called on to share in such a measure) the Act of Union must be recognised and must have important consequences, especially with reference to the position of the hierarchy.

"I am much obliged to you for writing, and I hope you will see and approve my reasons for not wishing to carry my own mind further into a question lying at a distance I cannot measure.—Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

"W. E. GLADSTONE."

"Rev. the Warden, Trin. Coll., Perth."

M. BORIE, an ingenious architect, has obtained the necessary concession to erect enormous edifices, which he proposes to call *Aérodômes*, with the view of meeting the great and increasing demand for living accommodation for artisans in Paris. They are to be not less than ten stories high, to accommodate at least 1000 persons, and access to the upper stories is to be afforded by means of "lifts."

THE NEW PALACE OF WESTMINSTER.—An additional statue has now been placed at the principal entrance to the members' private arcade in New Palace-yard—viz., one of King John. There are now three statues placed in front of this arcade—viz., Alfred the Great, William the Conqueror, and King John. The remaining three vacant niches will shortly have statues placed in them. These statues are of Portland stone, and stand 6 ft. 6 in. high. The bronze statue of the late Sir Robert Peel, which stood for some time uncovered at the central entrance to New Palace-yard, having been removed on account of the ineligibility of the site, will be shortly placed on a granite pedestal at the entrance to New Palace-yard fronting Parliament-street and Great George-street. The companion statue of the late Lord Palmerston will not be erected for some time.

THE EVILS OF ELEMOSYNARY EDUCATION.—The facts reported respecting King Edward's School at Birmingham show how much evil charity may do. That school is one of the richest and best of the free schools in the country. It has a present and rapidly increasing income of £12,000 a year, and it educates 600 boys. Yet its general effect upon the educational interests of the town seems to be decidedly unfavourable. The Assistant Commissioner reports that the private schools of the neighbourhood are degraded or extinguished by the unfair competition to which this great free school subjects them. Parents will not send their children to private schools so long as they have any hope of getting them into the free school, and many boys are allowed to grow up in perfect ignorance simply because their parents have indulged in the vain expectation of getting a gratis education for them. So thoroughly has this dependence upon charity for the education of their children demoralised parents in Birmingham that they will not even pay for the little preliminary teaching required for admission to the free school, and a preparatory school can hardly live in the town. The Assistant Commissioner saw a boy of sixteen years of age, the son of parents rich enough to keep a carriage, who had not even the simple qualification in reading and writing necessary for admission. The same evil is experienced at Christ's Hospital. Parents who expect ultimately to get their children educated for nothing will not spend money on preparatory teaching, and so valuable years of early life are lost for educational purposes.—*Express*.

MARYLEBONE WORKHOUSE.—The guardians of the great metropolitan parish of Marylebone have just made a highly important addition to the establishment under their control. Commencing a much-needed reform, they have caused to be pulled down an old and useless mass of masonry which encumbered the premises, and, with the guidance of Mr. H. S. Snell as their architect, have erected a fine and spacious infirmary for the accommodation of the sick poor. The infirmary, which is of some pretensions as to outward effect, is fronted by what will soon be a garden, and presents a striking contrast to the dingy range of lodgings which run at many angles from it, and which are the abodes of about 1800 destitute people. The rooms of the new infirmary will, in point of warmth, ventilation, and light, contrast favourably with the wards of any of the regular hospitals. There are six chambers, 40 ft. wide, 60 ft. long, and 13 ft. high, which are to contain forty beds each. Each occupant will thus have 780 cubic feet of air. They are intended exclusively for women. The walls are plastered throughout, and finished with Portland cement, but are coloured to a moderate height in cheerful tints. Thus all the apartments, staircases, and landings present an appearance of airiness, freedom, and cleanliness such as is not generally to be found in the buildings used for a similar purpose. The total cost of the structure and of every description of fitting, gas-lighting, architects' commission, and all other contingencies, has not reached £6400. The accommodation is for 240 inmates, which gives an outlay of £27 per bed.

LETTER FROM DR. LIVINGSTONE.—A private letter from Dr. Livingstone to a friend in Edinburgh furnishes news of the great traveller down to February last year. It recounts considerable hardships, but leaves Livingstone in good health and spirits, in the midst of forests so dense and leafy that one "cannot see fifty yards on either side," and "at 10 deg. 10 min. south latitude, and long. 31 deg. 50 min. 2 sec." The slave-dealing tribes have fled at his approach, and the prestige of the English name has actually been among the gravest inconveniences experienced by the explorer. His Johanna men left him through fear of the slave-traders' vengeance; he was prevented crossing a lake because the owners of the only boats on it dreaded he would burn them as slavers, and discreetly hid themselves; and he found whole districts denuded of food by tribes whose traffic in their friends and enemies is their sole means of subsistence. Hunger and the rainy season had delayed his progress; but the latter part of his letter is dated from Bamba, where he has just had a cow given him by the chief, upon which he is about to make "Christmas feast, as I promised the boys a blow-out when we came to a place of plenty." "We have had precious hard lines," writes the hunger doctor, "but I would not complain if it had not been gnawing hunger for many a day, and our bones sticking through as they would burst the skin." In parts where game abounded Livingstone "had filled the pot with the first-rate rifle given me by Captain Fraser," but elsewhere the only food had been "a species of 'millet' which passes the stomach almost unchanged." But his sorest grief was the loss of his medicine-chest, which, "with plates, dishes, clothes, and much of our powder," was stolen by two of the natives employed in carrying them, and whom it was found impossible to follow. This "fell upon my heart like a sentence of death by fever;" notwithstanding which he resolves cheerfully to trust to native remedies and to hope the best. The letter concludes sanguinely, and mentions the slow rate of progress (eight miles a day), and the necessity of travelling zigzag as causes for delay. It is, however, cheering to note that the party has "not had a single difficulty with the people" they are with now; and that the gang of Arab slavers who promise to post Livingstone's letters at Zanzibar have obviously kept their word.

THE MARSH STATUE, DUBLIN.

AMONG other things done by the Prince of Wales while in Ireland was the inauguration of a statue of the famous Edmund Burke at Dublin; but this is not the only addition recently made to the ornaments of the Irish capital. A few months since the ceremony of presenting a statue of the late Sir Henry Marsh to the King and Queen's College of Physicians, with which Sir Henry Marsh was connected during a great part of his life, took place in the grand hall of the institution, before a numerous and distinguished assembly. The president, Dr. Stokes, occupied the chair, the fellows and members attending in their robes. Dr. Banks, in an appropriate address, presented the statue on the part of the subscribers, the president of the college signifying its acceptance in suitable terms. The statue is the work of Mr. Foley, and is placed in the hall of the college, in which it forms a very attractive feature. The statue is life-size. The figure appears in academic costume, and the likeness is excellent, the attitude being suitable and graceful, the only want being that which the art of the sculptor cannot supply—the brilliant eye, so well remembered as a feature of the living man.

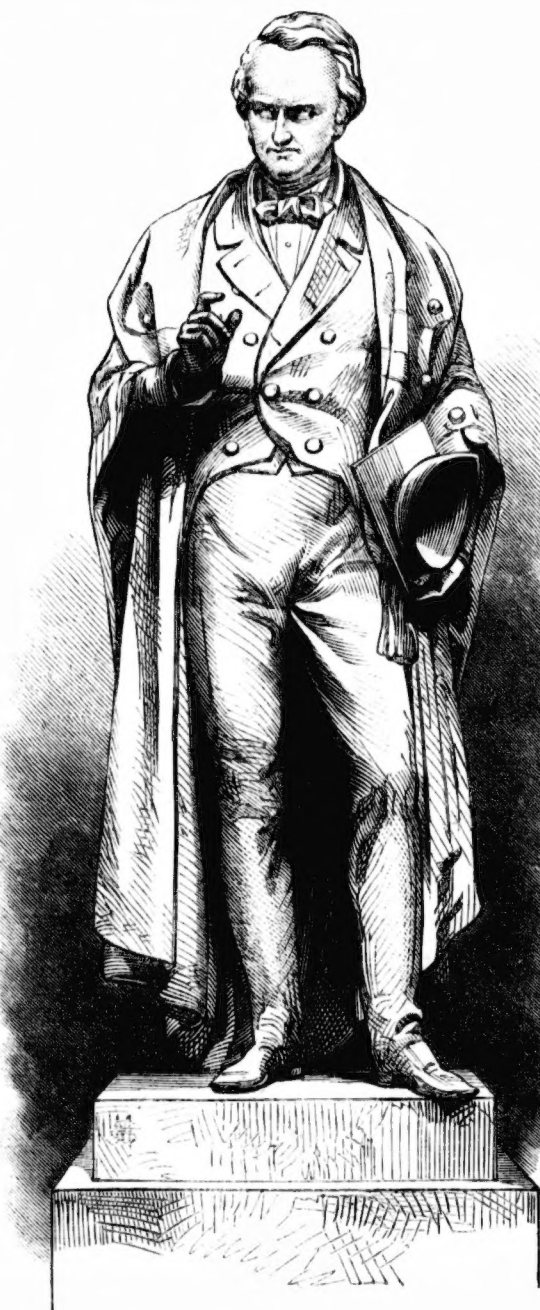
Sir Henry Marsh, M.D., M.R.I.A., was the son of the Rev. Robert Marsh, Rector of Athreney, in the county of Galway, by the daughter of the Rev. Mr. Worsley. He was born at Loughrea, and graduated at Trinity College, Dublin. He was long physician in ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, and occupied the very foremost rank in his profession. He died in 1860, and was succeeded in the title by his son, the present Sir Henry Marsh, formerly a Captain in the 3rd Dragoon Guards.

THE LATE VOLUNTEER REVIEW.

THE volunteer field day of 1868, of which we published a full description in our last week's Number, appears to have given entire satisfaction to all concerned. General Sir George Buller, who commanded, is pleased both with the performances of the volunteers and with the arrangements made by the Mayor of Portsmouth; the Mayor is pleased that the General is pleased; the volunteers are very well pleased with themselves; the spectators had the best of reasons of anybody, perhaps, to be pleased with the display they witnessed; and even severe military critics were not very much displeased, which is a significant fact, seeing how apt "professionals" are to take exception to the appearance and performances of "amateurs." So that, on the whole, the review at Portsmouth is a source of general congratulation, and a great encouragement to future efforts. To complete the pleasing picture, we hope our readers will be pleased with the two additional Engravings, illustrative of the operations, which we now place before them.

HOLY WEEK IN HUNGARY.

THE visiting of churches during Holy Week is a custom which is very generally kept up by the Roman Catholic population of Hungary. Above all, in the afternoon, few people will pass a church without looking in and saying their short prayers. The churches are open till late in the evening, inviting everyone who feels prompted to step in. But Good Friday is the day above all when regular rounds are made of all the churches. In every church one of the side chapels is fitted up so as to resemble the Holy Sepulchre: a rocky grotto of pasteboard, with the effigy of the dead Saviour in wood or wax underneath; above, a couple of angels adoring the Cross, which is exposed; all round, flowers and candelabra with lighted tapers, and in front two soldiers as sentinels. Besides, in all places which boast of a hill in their neighbourhood a Calvary is set up, at which you arrive by passing twelve stations, which, according to tradition, were made on the road. At each of the stations a pictorial representation of the event is inclosed in a shrine, at which the pilgrims kneel down and say their prayers. On the top there is either a chapel or simply three high crosses, which you can see from a distance. Pesth has no hill near, and therefore no Calvary; besides, the pouring rain on Good Friday would have probably deterred most pilgrims. The bells, which scarcely cease ringing during the week, are silent on that day. Their joyous sound is ill-suited to the mourning; it is replaced by the dead sound of wooden rattles. Popular belief, however, makes them travel to Rome to be blessed. Saturday afternoon is the celebration of the feast of the Resurrection, which goes on till late in the evening. Every church



STATUE OF THE LATE SIR HENRY MARSH, M.D., DUBLIN.

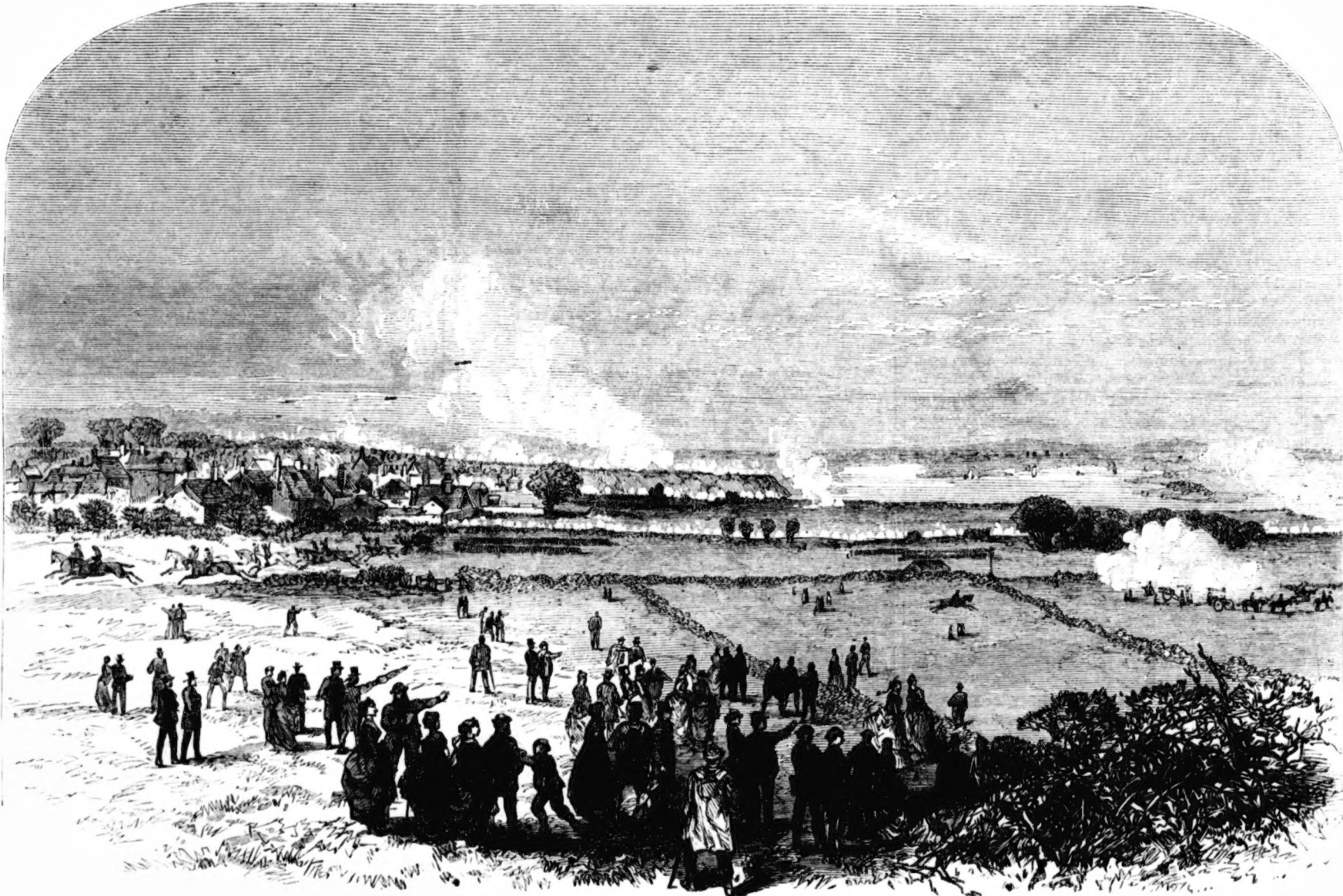
chooses a different hour, so as not to interfere with each other; and if the day is fine, as it was this year, the effigy of the risen Saviour and the Host are carried about in procession through the streets. The whole town is out, and collected in the places where

the processions pass. Before every church the waxchandlers and sellers of gingerbread pitch their tents, while right and left of them you see rows of women selling coloured Paschal eggs.

These Paschal eggs form a most important feature in the Easter festivals. For days before they are the only objects of the thoughts and dreams of the rising generation. To have many brightly-coloured eggs is the ambition of every schoolboy, and to test their strength against those of his companions. He is quite a hero who has hit upon one or two with very hard shells, for he may become the proprietor of many eggs, though broken ones. There is no end of childish cunning displayed in the game. The eggs are sounded against the teeth, and thus an opinion is formed of their relative strength. Sometimes the trial is small end against small end, sometimes small end against the large one. Then there is goose egg against hen egg, or turkey against guinea fowl, and he whose egg remains intact becomes the happy possessor of the broken one. But it is not only for children that the Paschal eggs are meant; they serve as presents among grown-up young people, and are for this purpose made of sugar, and ornamented with devices and sugar bas-reliefs anything but holy. A couple of white doves, a bright nosegay, or a brightly-dressed young couple tell their own tale. Besides, hard-boiled eggs are an indispensable item in the Easter repast. Where old custom is strictly kept up, a piece of cold lamb, a twisted cake of flour, butter and eggs, hard-boiled eggs, a piece of horseradish, and a little salt are sent on Sunday morning to church to be sprinkled with holy water and blessed, and after mass people break their fast with this blessed fare. It is lying on the table, and whoever comes to bring his good wishes for the holiday must needs partake of it. In country districts, where these visits cannot be made so easily, friends send each other some of the cake at least as a sign of goodwill.

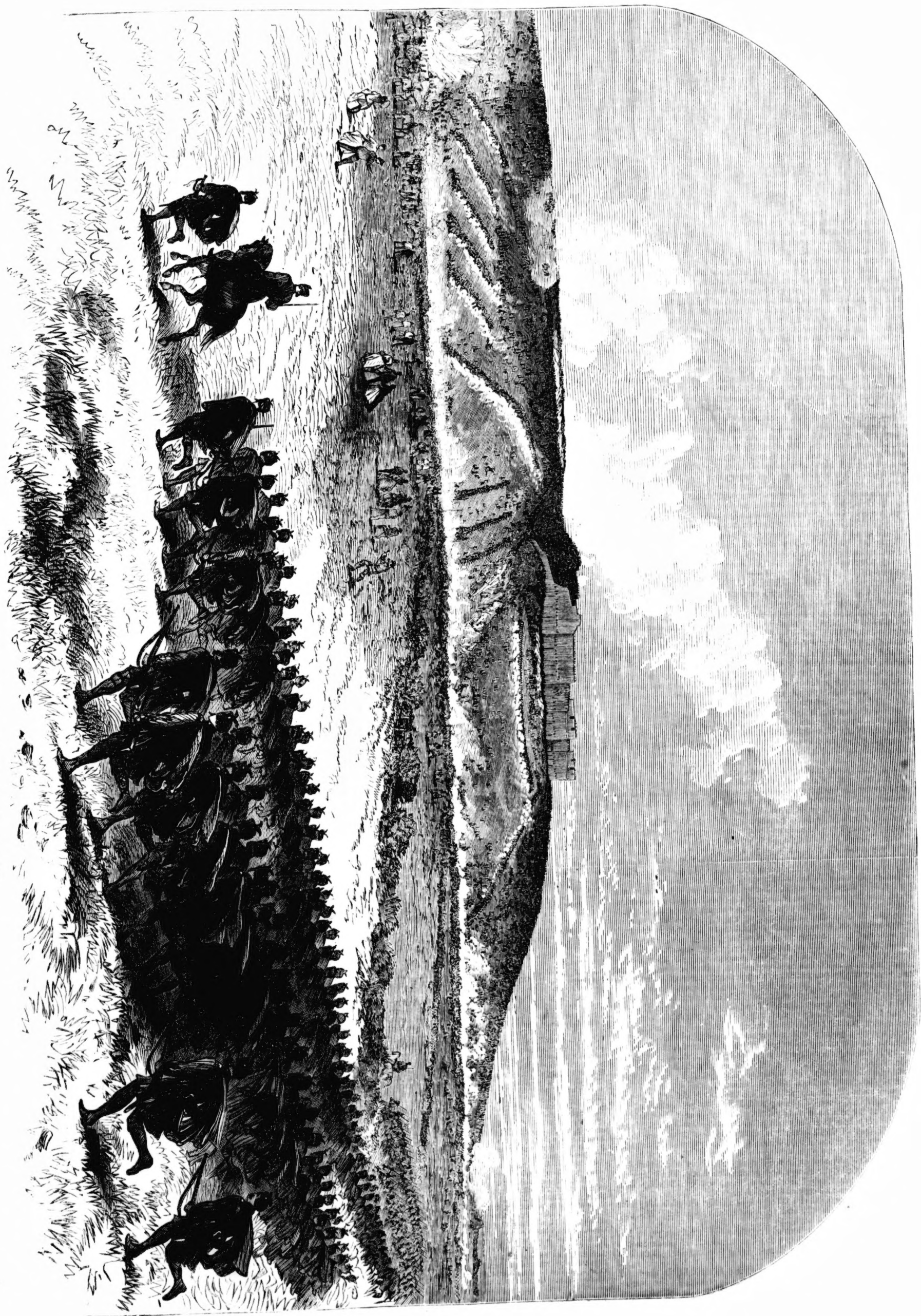
After mass, Easter Sunday and, above all, Monday belong no more to the Church, but to Nature. The weather must be very bad indeed to deter people from putting on light spring clothing and going out where there are green fields, trees, or a piece of turf. In every place there is a locality set aside by custom for Easter "outing," where people go to disport themselves for the day.

The people of Buda-Pesth boast of one which is probably unrivalled; while on the left bank of the Danube, along which Pesth lies, an almost uninterrupted plain, with little variation, stretches far away towards the Theiss, along the right bank a panorama of graceful hills opens out as far as the eye reaches. Just opposite a long, steep hill, crowned by the old walls of Buda, comes down almost to the river, leaving but space enough for a narrow street; while on both sides of it the more distant hills send out two promontories. The northern of these, covered with vineyards, slopes down gently; while the southern one rises towards the river until it ends in an abrupt rocky bluff some 600 ft. high. This is the mountain of St. Gherard, from the top of which, according to tradition, the pious Bishop who tried to stem the Pagan reaction, in the middle of the eleventh century, was precipitated into the river by the furious populace. The suburbs of Buda, becoming thinner and thinner, stretch up to the foot of the mountain and wind half way up its steep sides, where the little one-windowed houses rise in rows one above the other; up to the top extends a green slope. This slope, up to the foot of the large casemated fort which was constructed after 1849, was on Easter Monday like an ant-hill, black with small moving figures, while in every street leading to it you could see long rows tending in the same direction. And a merry crowd it was, full of animal spirits, and rather prone to practical joking. As on Greenwich-hill in olden times, the chief fun seemed to be to run down the steep sides in order to toil up again. Then those who were above amused themselves with throwing oranges, apples, &c., to those below, and these sent back again what they could find, but all in good humour, although the mass of the crowd belonged to the lower classes. The more sober ones contented themselves with sitting on the green slopes or walking about on the top, where you may enjoy a beautiful panoramic view of the sister capital, of the hills of Buda, and follow the great river for miles up and down. This alone repays the trouble you have in getting up. Another time-honoured custom which still flourishes in Hungary is the ducking on Easter Monday and Tuesday. On the first day it is the privilege of the men, on the second of the women. If in the town it is but sprinkling with rose-water, in the country it means emptying pails of water over the head in proof of affection, and there are most animated scenes to be witnessed at the fountains.



THE VOLUNTEER SHAM FIGHT AT PORTSMOUTH: ADVANCE OF THE DEFENDING FORCE

THE VOLUNTEER SHAN FIGHT AT PORTSMOUTH: TERMINATION OF THE STRUGGLE.



THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

NEXT Monday the Irish Church debate will be resumed. Do my readers understand the exact position of this question—what has been done and what Gladstone proposes to do? Perhaps not, for Parliamentary proceedings are not very intelligible to outsiders. Let me explain the matter. First of all, then, be it known that "no bill relating to religion or the alteration of the laws concerning religion can be brought into the House until the proposition shall have been considered in a Committee of the whole House and agreed to by the House." Further, "The House will not proceed upon a petition, motion, or bill granting money, or for releasing or compounding any sum of money owing to the Crown, but in Committee of the whole House." It would thus appear that on two grounds these resolutions could be considered and debated only in Committee—first, on the ground that they relate to religion; and, secondly, that they propose to meddle with money. It was, then, first necessary to move that the House do resolve itself into Committee. This was done on April 3, and, after two divisions, the House did resolve itself into Committee. But something more was done: Gladstone moved in Committee his first resolution—to wit, "That it is necessary that the Established Church of Ireland should cease to exist as an establishment, due regard being had to all personal interests and to all individual rights of property." But nothing more was done. The Chairman, as soon as this motion was made, reported progress. On Monday next, then, the House will, without further debate, again resolve itself into Committee, and the discussion of this resolution will at once commence. I suppose the discussion will last at least four days—viz., Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. This first resolution will, I have no doubt, be carried by a large majority; and a large number of Gladstone's followers think that it would be wise if he would be satisfied with the assertion of the great principle contained in this resolution, and postpone the consideration of the second and third resolutions until next year. And I confess that this is my opinion, whatever that may be worth. He cannot carry a bill to legalise his resolutions. Then why do more than assert the great principle? Let him get that recorded in the journals and be satisfied. Besides, he will carry the first resolution; but it is to be doubted whether he will carry the second and the third. I believe all this has been represented to Mr. Gladstone; but at present, I am told, he is immovable, as it is his wont to be. He is too apt to take the bit between his teeth. Still, I think he will give way, either voluntarily or under pressure too severe to be resisted. If he should, after carrying his first resolution, persist, spite of all remonstrance, in going on with his second and third, the debates on them will be interminable; and I venture to think that he will have to withdraw them at last.

The second resolution goes to prevent any creation of new personal interests. The third is to pray her Majesty to place at the disposal of Parliament all her interests in the temporalities of the archbishops, bishops, &c. I am no lawyer; but one needs not much knowledge of law to see that such proposals as these must lead to discussions the end of which no one can foresee. Besides, supposing these resolutions carried, what force would they have until they shall have been embodied in an Act? I should like some one learned in the law to answer this question. If resolution the second should be carried, which declares that "it is expedient to prevent the creation of new personal interests," would the patron of a vacant living be prevented from presenting to that living? Surely not, unless this resolution be made law by an Act. But Mr. Gladstone cannot hope to pass an Act this Session. Then why, at the expense of so much time, press these two resolutions?

There is a rumour that her Majesty does not like the last resolution, and will resist it. But this is sheer nonsense. Her Majesty has no power to resist the will of Parliament, and this she well knows.

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

Twice in your columns, Sir, have I told the *British Quarterly* to make an effort; but, with the usual insouciance of men and reviews, it obstinately refuses! Nevertheless, the present number is very readable, including amongst its topics "The Poor Laws," the "Russian Novelist Gogol," the great Vatican M.S., Dante, Faraday, "Intercommunion of Churches," and the "Irish Church Question." Of all these, I think the last the best. The article "On National Education"—from a well-known pen—endeavours to show that the present attitude of the advanced Nonconformists with regard to national education is not inconsistent with the essential principles of Nonconformity. But how can this be done, except at the cost of drawing a line between the secular and the spiritual? That line cannot be drawn with logical precision, however; so that the attitude of a Nonconformist who supports national education on the ground that the line can be drawn, is as much a compromise as the attitude of those Nonconformists condemned in the article, who say that the State is properly a mere policeman, but who are ready to add that, as a matter of expediency, the State may educate. Might I venture to suggest to the *B. Q.* that its "virtue" in the small reviews is a little truer than at times? The paper on "Intercommunion of Churches" does justice, and no more, to the manliness and moral courage of Dean Alford.

In the *Fortnightly*, Mr. Harrison's article on the "Transit of Power" competes in interest with that upon "Physics and Politics," by Mr. Walter Bagehot, who, I regret to see, has been long and seriously ill. It is very amusing to find Mr. Bagehot saying—what is quite true—that the secular Comtists want to introduce into England a dictatorship founded upon the proletariat; while Mr. Harrison, in the same review, denies the charge! Nevertheless, Mr. Bagehot is right. I may add that all this recent fuss about the impropriety of trusting Parliament with legislative, as distinguished from deliberative, functions raises no new topic whatever. Mr. Mill having fully discussed the subject in his book on "Representative Government." Mr. Lewes on "Mr. Darwin's Hypotheses" is, of course, most attractive; but I can never bring myself to see any fun or force in the general question, and the greater part of what Mr. Lewes writes addresses itself to mere figments, which it is hard to believe scientific men of any order would hold fast to if you pushed them hard enough. For instance, is it conceivable that any human being would maintain the objective reality of "Species" if you only drove him into a corner about it?

The *Contemporary* contains the first part of "Glück and Haydn," by the Rev. H. R. Haweis; and this is the entertaining article of the number, besides being distinguished by that delicate insight and strong sense of justice which characterise all the writings of Mr. Haweis. In the variety and excellency of its contents, the *Contemporary* is running its compass very hard; and there is, in fact, no review that can beat it. The only difficulty in dealing with it is that the contents are so varied that one does not at a glance always select the best subject for a word of comment.

A very curious little magazine, called the *Astro-Meteorological Journal*, has reached me once or twice; and I find its predictions of the weather, as far as I have watched them, curiously near the mark.

Temple Bar has lately been so good as to deserve special notice. "The Knight of Innishowen" is delightful, but it belongs to an order of writing the merit of which is not easily presented in rapid quotation.

Chambers's Journal is quite a different thing from what it used to be—it is now full of liveliness and genial abandon. The "Maxims by a Man of the World" are not cynical, but overflowing with humorous wisdom and observation of life.

With rare exceptions, the illustrations in the *People's Magazine* have extraordinary merit, and so have some papers for "Working Women," written by a lady.

Good Words has lately been giving some delightful essays, by Mr. R. S. Ralston, on Kriof, the Russian fabulist. A paper in the *Sunday Magazine* on "Ecce Homo," by a German clergyman, hits the bull's-eye.

In two of the magazines now before me we are told, in the stock phrase of pulpits and commentators, that Christ rebuked the woman of Samaria. Now, I invite your readers to turn to the narrative. They will find that there is no rebuke whatever either expressed or

implied. According to Jewish law and custom there was no reason why there should be any rebuke administered; and it so happens that this absence of rebuke, coupled with the absence of certain elements which are found in all three of the synoptics, is an important point in the discussion of questions that arise in the criticism of the fourth Gospel. In this way do "serious" people of imperfect culture and acquiescent minds go on repeating gross blunders only because they think they have an edifying tendency. The acquiescent mind always believes and echoes anything that looks very "proper" indeed, without inquiring into the truth of it; and this tendency is not only one of the greatest but one of the most irritating barriers to human progress.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

Of the new Easter pieces "The White Fawn" at the HOLBORN still remains to be noticed. Criticism would be out of place if applied to this elaborate piece of studied absurdity. Mr. Burnand would probably be the last person in the world to pretend that it had any literary merit; it is simply a collection of scenes, more or less gorgeous, illuminated by a series of songs and dances, all more or less outrageously absurd. As for the dialogue, there is plenty of it; but, as it is for the most part inaudible from the third row of the stalls, Mr. Burnand has shown a wise economy in not wasting many good things upon it. The scenery is gorgeous, but rather heavy; the dresses are magnificent, and the ballets do credit to M. Espinosa's powers of invention. The songs are very numerous, and one or two of them receive genuine "double encores." One song, confessedly founded on a song of Mr. Howard Paul's, called by Mr. Burnand "She gives me lumbago," is funnily written, and capably sung by Mr. Irving. I see that the *Pall Mall Gazette* is very indignant with Mr. Burnand and other burlesque-writers for the titles that appear to their songs as advertised in the *Times*, and it quotes the title of this song as a specimen of the imbecility of modern burlesques. Now, in "The White Fawn," the character represented by Mr. Irving is subjected to the influence of a bad fairy, who tortures him with various ailments—with lumbago, among others; and it is difficult to see how, if Mr. Burnand wished to put the audience in possession of this fact, he could do so in a simpler or more straightforward manner than by using the four words that appear as the title of the song. "Couldn't Help Screaming" is another title to which the *Pall Mall* takes objection. This is really a fair specimen of the style of hypercriticism to which unpretending burlesques are subjected at the hands of "high-class" journals. A farce or a pantomime, be it never so outrageous, is allowed to pass muster without comment.

The Japanese conjurers and acrobats are certainly clever, but I do not think that they surpass their Whitechapel rivals so completely as to justify their *entrepreneur* in expecting to make his fortune by them. They are certainly more expert than the clumsy impostors who appeared at St. Martin's Hall some months since. The most marked peculiarity in their performance consists in the apparent awkwardness with which they accomplish dangerous and difficult feats. There is none of that quasi-picturesque smartness about them that is so characteristic of the British acrobat, and their ungainliness adds to the effect of their performances. One of their tricks, in the course of which a small boy mounts a ladder thirty feet high, from the upper end of which another ladder projects at right angles, the whole structure simply resting on the shoulders of a stalwart member of the troupe, is much too dangerous. An accident will probably happen, and then perhaps the performance will be prohibited. Assuredly, if a slip were to occur, the small boy would be dashed to atoms; and that the possibility of such an accident taking place has suggested itself to the management is evident from the fact that a strong rope is stretched across the theatre, so that the ladder may not fall on any member of the audience. The butterfly trick and the top-spinning are neither better nor worse than when I saw them at St. Martin's Hall. A pretty view of Yokohama gives a local colouring to the performance.

IMPORTANT ANTIQUARIAN DISCOVERY.—A discovery which will, no doubt, give rise to much speculation and investigation among antiquaries has just been made on the property of Mr. Cadell, of Grange, near Edinburgh. In the course of some improvements on the garden, the workmen turned up a large stone, which at first was thrown aside as an ordinary boulder, and for a time was allowed to lie on the surface. An examination afterwards made, however, showed that the reverse of the stone contained an inscription which seemed to identify it with the wall of Antoninus (commonly known in that quarter as "Graham's Dyke"), built during the Roman occupation of Lollius Urbicus, for the purpose of shutting off the wild tribes to the north, and which was supposed to extend from the Forth to the Clyde. From the inscription it is conjectured that this stone was intended to commemorate the finishing of the wall; and, if so, it will prove a valuable aid to antiquarian research, as showing how far the work actually did extend eastward.

MR. CHARLES DICKENS.—Mr. Charles Dickens gave his final reading in Boston on the 8th inst. before a large audience. His reading-table was decorated with rare and beautiful flowers, and, as he noticed the graceful compliment on approaching the footlights, Mr. Dickens said, "I kiss the fair hands unknown who have so beautifully adorned my table." He read "Dr. Marigold" and "Sairey Gamp," and at the close of his reading he responded to the enthusiastic plaudits with which he was greeted in the following words:—"Ladies and Gentlemen,—My precious and generous welcome in America, which can never be obliterated from my remembrance, began here. My departure begins here too, for I assure you that I have never until this moment really felt that I am going away. In this brief life of ours it is sad to do almost anything for the last time, and I cannot conceal from you that although my face will soon be turned toward my native land and to all that makes it dear, it is a sad consideration with me that in a very few moments from this time this brilliant hall, and all that it contains, will fade from my view for evermore. But it is my consolation that the spirit of the bright faces, the quick perception, the ready replies, the generous allowance, and the cheering sounds that have made this place joyful to me, will remain; and you may rely upon it that spirit will abide with me as long as I have the sense and sentiment of life. I do not say this with any reference to the private friendships that have for years and years made Boston a memorable and beloved spot to me, for such private references have no business in this public place. I say it purely in remembrance of, and in homage to, the great public heart before me. Ladies and Gentlemen, I beg most earnestly, most gratefully, and most affectionately to bid you each and all farewell." As Mr. Dickens was leaving the stage the audience rose en masse, and while the gentlemen hurried over and over again, the ladies waved their handkerchiefs until he had retired from view.

CURIOUS DISCOVERY.—Quite a puzzle for the archaeologists has been found by the Rev. James Robertson, of Swinton, North Riding, who for some time past has been engaged in the examination of a mound of 70 ft. diameter, situated close by the village, and within a few yards of the old Roman road from Eborac to Prætorium. The mound is popularly known as "St. Peter's Liberty" and "The Intake," and was formerly inclosed; but is now part of the estate of Mr. Thomas Preston, of Norton, East Riding. The mound was opened in expectation of its being a tumulus. This, however, has proved otherwise. After some weeks of digging, a cruciform excavation, of 8 ft. 9 in. in depth, cut into the solid rock, has been exposed. The arms of this cross were to the cardinal points, and were exactly of a length, measuring from north to south and from east to west 19 ft.—being 5 ft. wide at the point of junction and 5 ft. at the ends. The sides were perpendicular, and the bottom was a perfectly flat surface of coralline colite. Upon this level bottom of the excavation was raised a platform, also in the form of a cross, the arms of which extended the whole length (nearly) of the cutting, and were 2 ft. in height and 2 ft. wide. At the point of intersection was a large square block of calcareous freestone; and the whole of the platform was made of the same rock, in large blocks, at the bottom and smaller stones upwards, all carefully placed. This rock crops out about a mile distant, and there is no other bed of it in the locality. The space between the sides of the excavations and the platform was filled with soil. Over all was a thick bed of beaten clay. Above this in ascending order the excavation was filled up with soil, containing Roman pottery, a Roman horseshoe (so thought), beds of clay and charcoal, quantities of medieval pottery, burnt stones, slates (squared) of flagstone with a hole bored in one corner, a worked bone pin, &c., and over all this a mound of about 3 ft. altitude of soil, clay, and burnt stones. The use of this place, or the reason of its formation, is enigmatical. If formed in early times it must have remained open to the medieval period, as evidenced by the pottery found. At present archaeologists are at fault in arriving at a conclusion as to the nature of this relic. A very similar structure, but formed on the natural ground, with a mound over it, was found at Helpthorpe, on the Wolds, about eighteen months ago, by Mr. William Love, of Scarborough. In that case the cross (platform) was formed of clay, supported by rough chalk walling, and that mound also produced Roman and middle-age pottery, glass, a horseshoe, bits of iron, &c. Doubtless, both are of a similar nature, whatever that may be.

THE ASSASSINATION OF MR. D'ARCY M'GEE.

DETAILED information concerning the assassination of the Hon. D'Arcy M'Gee, which fact was briefly announced a few days ago, only amplifies the horrible features of the murder. The hon. gentleman had been officially engaged at the Parliament House, where he had delivered an eloquent harangue on the position of Nova Scotia. He left the house at a little before half-past two o'clock in the morning, and, smoking a cigar, walked to the house in Park-street where he was lodging. The night was bright and clear. He had just reached the door, and was about entering, when he was shot by some unknown person. One of the pages of the Parliament House was coming up at the time, but he was some distance off when he heard the shot. He rushed to the spot, and found Mr. M'Gee, who had been in the act of opening the door, lying dead on the step. The ball had passed through his head, and was afterwards found lodged in the doorpost. His brain protruded from the wound, and the place was covered with scattered blood, which seemed to show that the pistol had in all probability been fired close to him. The page in question could not discern the slightest trace of the assassin, nor has the most active search discovered him. The supposition is that he was hidden near, and that he had time to make his escape quite unperceived before anyone could come up. The murder has created a profound sensation of horror in Ottawa. An inquest was opened the same morning, but was adjourned. The jury men in the meantime attended the House of Commons to hear the eulogies that were pronounced on the deceased. The Government of Ontario and Quebec, 5000 dol.; and the Mayor of Ottawa, 4000 dol., for the apprehension of the murderer. The authorities at all points have been warned to use their utmost diligence in hunting up the murderer, and have been enjoined to arrest all suspicious persons. Business was almost suspended; flags all over the city were run up half mast; and many evidences of public mourning were displayed.

Several persons accused of being implicated in the assassination have been arrested. Against one of these men, named Whelan, the Canadian papers consider the evidence is overwhelmingly strong. The doorman of the Canadian Parliament deposes that he had admitted Whelan four different times to the gallery of the House on the night of the murder, and speaks of his excited and uneasy demeanour. A revolver found upon him showed signs of having been recently discharged, and the bullet discovered exactly corresponded with some in the prisoner's possession. For years past, it is asserted, he has openly avowed Fenian sentiments and hatred of M'Gee. A late telegram goes further and states that three men who were charged as accomplices had turned Queen's evidence against Whelan. There is a general belief, as in the case of the assassination of Mr. Lincoln, that the deed is the result of a conspiracy, in which the guilt of the actual murderer is shared by several accomplices.

Thomas D'Arcy M'Gee was born in Carlingford, Ireland, in 1823. He was educated in Wexford, and held an appointment in the long room of the Custom-house there. At the age of eighteen he visited the United States, but shortly afterwards returned to Ireland. He connected himself with the Repeal movement. In some way he provoked the hostility of O'Connell. In 1847 he joined the "Young Ireland" party with Mitchell; in 1848 he revisited the United States, and became connected, in an editorial capacity, with the *Boston Pilot*, the organ of the Irish race in America. His name had previously been stricken off the roll of the "Repeal" association. Subsequently Mr. M'Gee published, in Boston, Buffalo, and New York, a paper called the *American Celt*. In 1856 Mr. M'Gee was a champion of Mr. Fremont for the presidency. He publicly stated that, should Fremont fail of an election, "he would go to a land of true freedom—Canada." He made his promise good. In 1857 Mr. M'Gee got into a controversy with the Roman Catholic Archbishop Hughes. His communications, published in the *New York Times* under the signature of "Philo-Veritas," attracted general attention. It was believed that he got the better of the Archbishop. His course, however, excited the hostility of the Irish Catholics in the United States, and he proceeded to take up his residence in Canada. He was preceded with some real estate by his friends, and was elected to Parliament. He became the champion of the "Orange," or "Loyal Irish" party of Lower Canada. His political course was not a thoroughly direct one; but he was, if not a statesman, an able defender of the Crown. He was fearless in the prosecution of disloyal Irishmen, and was regarded with unmixed hostility by the majority of the Irish people of Canada. He received many threatening letters; he was once told to "prepare his coffin;" but he paid no attention to these, continuing to threaten and procure criminal prosecutions against all disloyal persons. During the late canvass in Montreal the Irish Fenians attempted to mob him, but he was protected by the military. He leaves a widow and several children. Mr. M'Gee was a man of various accomplishments, though not, probably, a scholar. He was caustic and brilliant in debate, a ready speaker; and he was an acknowledged leader of Canadian society and opinion.

CLOSING OF ROYAL DOCKYARDS.—There is now no doubt about the closing of the minor shipbuilding yards, an order having been received for Deptford to shut up in the course of the year. Woolwich will, in all probability, follow Deptford; but the establishment being on a much larger scale, it will take from two to three years to complete the arrangement, and it is not yet quite decided whether the whole or only part of the yard will be disposed of. The part to be retained will most likely be the factory department, the smiths being very busy at present constructing iron gun-carriages. The factory has also the means of making engines to propel vessels by steam, but the machinery as yet has never been made use of for that purpose; and there is no reason why Woolwich, with all its appliances, should not be made the establishment for repairing and constructing engines for our steam navy. A meeting of between 400 and 500 of the men employed in the Government establishments at Deptford has been held in the hall of the Literary Institution of that town for the purpose of considering the proposed discharge of mechanics and labourers and the ultimate closing of the dockyard. The speakers pointed out that in accepting situations in Deptford dockyard at a low scale of wages they had done so with the understanding that they would not be required to remove from the place, and that if now compelled to do so it would entail great hardship, if not ruin, upon many who had children apprenticed in the town or filling situations; and that such removal would also be the means of breaking up their provident societies, towards which they had been for years paying as a provision against sickness or death. It was resolved to form a committee as a deputation to seek an interview with the Lords of the Treasury, with the view of obtaining the granting of compensations to those who are removed, and to allow others who would prefer to do so to take their superannuation allowances, ten years' servitude being added thereto, as provided by the Act 22 Vic., chap. 26, sec. 7.

MR. T. HUGHES, M.P., AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.—Mr. Thomas Hughes has announced his intention of putting the political virtue of his constituents to a rigorous test at the next general election. The entire cost of the former contest was £1100; and, as Mr. Hughes justly says, it is probable that no metropolitan borough was ever won so cheaply before. But a result which would have been highly satisfactory to most representatives of the people is not satisfactory to Mr. Hughes. He declares that he cannot afford to pay even £1100 for his seat again, and therefore that he intends to do without committee-rooms, public houses, and all the rest of the stock election machinery. He is much to be commended for making an experiment in which poorer as well as richer men than he have a great interest; but, if the future contest at Lambeth should, like the Tichborne succession, be taken up warmly by those intelligent political students, the success of Mr. Hughes, the "odds" are likely to be given against the success of Mr. Hughes. It is understood in almost every borough during election time that some money must be spent, totally irrespective of corruption or bribery; and the enlargement of a constituency has not been found in other countries to diminish the expense of an election. If Mr. Hughes intends to ignore publicans, and printers, and all the odd people who look out for work at an election, he will deserve well of many who wish to see how the plan will answer without themselves running the risk of putting it in trial. Popular men are sometimes elected for a first time on the cheap system; but electoral generosity is a fluctuating quality, and voters are apt to think that a rich and free-handed man, of their own opinion, is quite as likely to make a good member as a poor man. We sincerely hope, however, that no such considerations will lead Mr. Hughes's constituents to forget his faithful services in their behalf. It cannot be so much an object of concern to them to have the publicans' taps set running gratuitously for a few days as to possess a representative whom they can respect and who respects them in return.—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

THE NEW MEAT AND POULTRY MARKET AT SMITHFIELD.

THE new market buildings at Smithfield are progressing rapidly, and it is hoped they will be ready for occupation in the course of the present year. When that consummation is arrived at the metropolis will have one of the finest market-places in the world.

The site of the market is partly upon veritable Smithfield, seeing that it is skirted on its southern side by Long-lane; but some other land had also to be purchased to obtain the necessary space, under an Act of Parliament passed for that purpose. The difficulties of the work were much increased by the fact that the building was to be erected over the goods station of the Great Western Railway, and over the underground works of the Metropolitan line. This rendered it necessary to fall back upon the plan so often resorted to in London buildings—to build upon iron columns, involving the usual multiplication of arches, brick walls, and vaults in all directions, before the market proper could be touched.

The manner in which this huge market is to be parcelled out seems to leave nothing to be desired. There are to be 200 shops, each covering a space of 37 ft. by 15 ft., and of course it will be open to a man with an extensive business to secure two or three allotments and convert them into one large establishment. The rent of each shop is £120 a year, which, considering the profits—the untold profits—the butchers have been wringing out of us lately, appears to be a reasonable sum; and is in point of fact very reasonable, when, in addition to the actual shop, there are a counting-house, a storeroom, and a good sitting room upstairs. The Markets Improvement Committee, indeed, evinced an almost fatherly anxiety to the comforts of the trade. The shops face the numerous passages to which we have referred, running from north to south—that is to say, from side to side. The front shop, in which the meat will be exposed for sale, is open to the main roof; but the premises are designed so that after business the meat may be removed into a back room ("back front" is the usual term), and enclosed for the night within steel revolving shutters. Behind this little meat-prison there is a comfortably appointed counting-house, and above this, reached by stairs, there is a retiring or sitting room, to which the tired owner may withdraw to enjoy a quiet siesta under a kind of sub-roof, which has been placed between him and the main roofing. The class of persons by whom this building is to be used was consulted before the contracts were made, and the desirability of a private apartment of this description was unanimously insisted upon. It is hardly necessary to add that nothing will be wanting in the matter of water for cleansing and general accommodation for casual visitors to the market. The four corners of the building are to be set apart for refreshments, and we believe an attempt is to be made to provide wholesome meat and drinks in a style and at rates that will be an example to other places of public resort. Bars for the sale of spirituous liquors will be fitted up upon the ground floor, while above there will be coffee-rooms, supplied with some, at any rate, of the daily newspapers. In central and convenient places there will be post-offices and telegraph stations, and whatever appliances the exigencies of the trade may require, or the miscellaneous wants of the public demand, will not be omitted. It is quite early to speak of the opinion of the public as to the merits of the new market; but we may safely say that Mr. Horace Jones's design has given general satisfaction, and that Messrs. Brown and Robinson, the contractors, are doing their work as English builders ought to do it.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The second spring show was held last Saturday, and proved one of the most brilliant in every respect the society ever held. Amongst the representatives at the exhibition were Messrs. Turner, William Paul, Paul and Son, J. and C. Lee, Bull, Veitch and Sons, Lane and Son, &c., who put forth their powers to the utmost; and the result was such a collection of roses, azaleas, cyclamens, auriculas, carnations, calceolarias, &c., as have rarely been brought together. The roses were especially splendid, and attracted crowds of visitors. The band of the Horse Guards played an excellent selection of music during the afternoon. The St. Cecilia Choral Society, which gave two concerts last year in the conservatory with so much success, are engaged to give four performances during May and June, when several novelties are intended to be introduced for both vocal and instrumental performers.

BROADSTAIRS NEW LIFE-BOAT.—The National Life-boat Institution forwarded a fine new life-boat to Broadstairs on Monday last. The boat is 61 ft. long, 9 ft. wide, and rows twelve men double-banked. It possesses the valuable properties of self-righting, self-ejecting of water, and other characteristics of the boats of the Institution. It was built by the Messrs. Forrest, of Limerhouse. The cost of the life-boat has been contributed by a lady, a friend of Captain Fishbourne, R.N., C.B., in memory of her deceased son, after whom it is named the "Samuel Morrison Collins." Through the kindness of the General Steam Navigation Company, the boat was towed to the neighbourhood of its station. The Institution is much indebted to Captain Elyard, Dr. Walter, and other gentlemen of Broadstairs for their valuable co-operation in the organisation and management of the new life-boat establishment. It may be added that during the past year the National Life-boat Institution contributed to the rescue of 1,084 lives from various shipwrecks. In the same period it expended £31,845 on its life-boat establishments, besides granting pecuniary rewards for services in saving life to the amount of £3180. The society has now 186 life-boats under its management; each life-boat station, including cost of boat, transporting-carriage, and bathhouse, involves an expense of about £600; and subsequently each boat requires about £50 a year to keep it always ready for instantaneous service. It is therefore evident that a large sum is required by the institution to enable it to maintain in a state of efficiency its numerous life-boat establishments; and that the great and national work in which it is so actively engaged can only be perpetuated by the continued support of the public at large.

THE DUST-HEAP.—There is not one particle in the heap the scavenger removes from our houses that is not again, and that speedily, put into circulation and profitably employed. No sooner is the dust conveyed to the end of the contractor than it is attacked by what are called the "hill women," who, sieve in hand, do mechanically what the savant does chemically in his laboratory—separate the mass, by a rude analysis, into its elements. The most valuable of these items are the waste pieces of coal, and what is termed the "breeze," or coal-dust and half-burnt ashes. The amount of waste that goes on in London households in this item of coal can hardly be conceived, unless the spectator see the quantity that is daily rescued in these yards. It may be measured by the fact that, after selling the larger pieces to the poor, the refuse "breeze" is sufficient to bake the bricks that are rebuilding London. Most of the dust contractors are builders as well, and the breeze is used by them for the purpose of embedding the newly-made bricks into compact square stacks, which are seen everywhere in the suburbs of London. The breeze having been fired, the mass burns with a slow combustion, aided by the circulation of air, which is kept up by the method of stacking; and in the course of two or three weeks the London clay is converted into good building material. Thus our houses may be said to arise again from the refuse they have cast out; and not only are the bricks baked by their aid, but they are built in part with mortar made from the roval scrapings, which is pounded granite, and combines very well with the lime and ashes of which the mortar is composed. Nay, even the compo, with which some of the smaller houses are faced, is very largely adulterated with this particular refuse.—"Quarterly Review," New Number.

THE PRICE OF WHEAT.—The price of wheat remains pretty nearly stationary, March closing with an average of 72s. 10d. per quarter, as compared with 69s. 11d. per quarter at the end of March, 1867; 44s. 11d. per quarter at the end of March, 1866; and 38s. 11d. per quarter at the end of March, 1865; wheat having thus been gradually hardening for the last four years. Those farmers who may still hold a respectable quantity of wheat would probably do well to clear out during the next month or two, as there does not appear to be much chance of prices going any higher, while it is not at all impossible that they may take a swoop downwards. For the United States have come to the rescue, and while they sent us a monthly average of only 349,001 cwt. of wheat in 1867, the corresponding monthly average this year, so far as the returns have been made up, has been 715,823 cwt. A delivery (to Great Britain alone) of 713,823 cwt. of American wheat can scarcely fail to have its effect upon the markets of this country; but even this quantity will probably be surpassed in a few months could prices exceed 60s. per quarter; for we find that in 1862 the United States sent to this country an average for the year of 1,315,966 cwt. per month. Every year the productiveness of the United States in the matter of cereals tends more and more towards its old level, which will, doubtless, be soon surpassed, with the march of American civilisation towards the European seaboard; and when we have once entered upon the enjoyment of the harvest of 1868, we shall probably enter also upon a period of cheap cereals. At present it is a race between Russian, Hungarian, and American supplies, and Western European (and especially French) deficits. This race will continue for four months more. Meanwhile, every day which passes over without an advance being registered in prices obviously increases, not only the probability of their remaining during the four months at their present level, but also of their receding to some extent from it.—"Bell's Mail Gazette."

Literature.

History of France. By EMILE DE BONNECHOSE. To the Revolution of 1818. In two volumes. Authorised Translation, Edited by S. O. Beeton. London: Ward, Lock, and Tyler.

The present ruler of France entered upon his sixtieth year on Monday last, after running a very remarkable career, having governed his country, first as President and then as Emperor, for close on twenty years, and being, perhaps, the real founder of a new dynasty. This fact, worthy of notice on its own account, is doubly interesting in connection with the annals of a land whose history is to a large extent the history of dynasties. It is, therefore, opportune to call attention to French history just now, and to refresh our memories as to the state of that country and the events that occurred there from the first dynasty to the last—from Clovis to Napoleon III. The condition of France now, and the leading events in her annals since the advent of Louis Napoleon to power, are told in the newspaper and other literature of the day. The past is recorded in a most interesting, clear, and succinct way in the pages of M. Bonnechose's "History," from the thirteenth edition of which we have presented, in the volumes before us, a very fairly executed though by no means faultless translation. The fact that this work has already passed through "a baker's dozen" of editions in the original, indicates the place it has taken in the branch of literature to which it belongs, and removes it beyond the range of criticism. It is only necessary, therefore, to say that the work is constructed upon what seems to us a thoroughly sound system. The earlier periods are summarised in small space, yet all the leading events are accurately recorded, and the influences at work in moulding the State and society are carefully noted. Some of M. Bonnechose's chapters, treating of even comparatively early times—such as that in which he traces the development of the feudal system under the first Capetian Kings—are exceedingly interesting and instructive, and should be read with great care. As we approach more recent and more important eras, the work expands; and the period in which occurred the wars of the English in France, from Edward III. to Henry VI., is treated in considerable detail. This portion will, perhaps, be most valuable to Englishmen, who have rather one-sided views and often faulty conceptions as to the merits of that great struggle, and who will be all the better for being enabled to compare their notions with others exhibited from the standpoint of an intelligent Frenchman, who has made the history of his country a special study. It must not be supposed, however, that M. Bonnechose is a partisan and not a historian; he is thoroughly impartial, or as impartial as it is possible for human nature to be, and deals out praise and blame as they seem to be merited. Coming to still later times, the work widens out yet more, and we have ample details, for all practical purposes, of the great events in which France was an actor, or of which she was the scene, from the days of the League and the accession of Henry IV. to the revolution of 1818.

In an excellent preface, M. Bonnechose gives us his ideas on the present state of France, and we quote one passage which the Emperor Napoleon and his Ministers, and some other persons besides, would do well to take into their most earnest consideration, and to act freely upon the principle it inculcates. M. Bonnechose says:—"I believe, contrarily from what was believed in pagan antiquity, that the individual is not made for the State, but the State for individuals; and that the more freely men are allowed to exercise all their rights under the guidance of religion, of morals, and of law, the more shall we see the State increase in prosperity and in power. I believe, finally, that the best Governments are those which elevate the moral and intellectual level of the people, increase the general well-being, and cause the greatest possible number of persons to participate in the benefits of civilisation." M. Bonnechose might have added that if the principles laid down in the first of these sentences were honestly acted upon by rulers, the results indicated in the second would generally follow of themselves.

We have said that this translation, though, as a whole, very well executed, is not devoid of faults. These faults consist in a rather inelegant rendering of the author in numerous instances and in some printer's errors. For instance, we have the word "received" printed for "revived" in one place and for "reserved" in another; Charlemagne is made to speak of his "nephews" when he evidently means his sons; "eventually" stands for "eventually"; Constance, mother of Henry I., is said to have raised "her younger brother Robert to the throne," whereas Robert was her son; the name of the widow of the Emperor Henry V., the wife of Geoffrey Plantagenet and mother of Henry II. of England, is printed "Margaret," when every schoolboy knows that Matilda was the name of that lady, who is known in English history as the Empress Maud (is this mistake the result of confounding her with the wife of our Henry VI., Margaret of Anjou, who lived some hundreds of years later?). We are told that certain provinces during the reign of Philip Augustus were "forfeited to the King of England," whereas the forfeiture was by the English King, the transaction referred to being the sentence of forfeiture passed upon John for contumacy in not appearing to clear himself of the murder of his nephew, Arthur of Brittany. The following sentence on page 100, vol. I., will, we daresay, puzzle the uninitiated reader, though the confusion is easily understood by those who know how mistakes will occur even in the best-regulated printing-offices:—"The two armies encountered near Colmar; all at once the Emperor's troops deserted him. The which this defection took place received the name of the Plain of plain on Fekshood." Notwithstanding such inaccuracies, however, which indicate much carelessness on the part of the printer and not too much diligence on that of the editor, this translation of Bonnechose's great work must be heartily welcomed, and we are sure will be studied and valued by thousands of readers.

What stops the Way? or, Our Two Great Difficulties; with some Hints Concerning the Way. By WILLIAM ELLIS. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

Mr. Ellis, a well-known and esteemed philanthropist, addresses himself to "statesmen, legislators, and philanthropists," on the subject of national education: on education proper, apart from instruction, for such words as spelling and grammar are hardly to be found in his pages. From his advice—which must, upon the whole, be considered vague—it may be gathered that he is an enemy to sectarian education, and thinks that all but the very select few should be taught the principles of going through life safely and honourably during the time that ordinary knowledge is being inculcated. Nobody will dissent from this proposition. Mr. Ellis insists that we should do more than go down to the grave free of debt. There are things concerning us to come after us, and it is our duty to atone for the faults or blunders of our forefathers. Thus, everybody is responsible for a share of our National Debt, and so forth. There are many remarks here about bankers and traders, employers and operatives; but it will be seen that education is a broad affair, and that the results of education is the broadest part, after all. The statesmen, legislators, and philanthropists will do well to lose no time in comparing these pages with their own ideas, unless they are all too busy on Irish and Scotch Reform Bills, bribery, and the Irish Church.

The Trees of Old England: Sketches of the Aspects, Associations, and Uses of those which constitute the Forests, and give effect to the Scenery, of our Native Country. By LEO H. GRINDON. London: F. Pitman.

Mr. Grindon has made a pleasing addition to that literature which boasts the name of Evelyn and of Cowley, and which has scarcely been left untouched by any author, ancient or modern. Trees and plants, it is not too much to say, form a part of our daily affairs during life, and contribute more than anything else in nature towards that poetic consolation in life which few people know they enjoy, because they have never had to do without it. It is like the "Water and Sunshine, the heirloom of all," of Mr. Kingsley; or, as Mr. Allingham says,

To the open riches of the earth,
Endowing men in their despite,
The poor, by privilege of birth,
Stand in the closest right.

Trees, we suspect, can make the natural man to feel naturally poetical—which is very different to that state of genius which could have made Swift "write beautifully about a broomstick." Now, Mr. Grindon's style, without being obtrusive, is frequently poetical, and will be found pleasing reading; but the serious botany of his subject is well considered, and plainly taught, whilst the high-flight element, as it were, is thrown in for nothing. Here is a fair instance. "To a mind of pure and elegant tastes the line always appeals powerfully; and perhaps it would be no error of judgment to deem preference for it one of the instincts of an amiable and tender disposition, such as admires the grand and stately but still best loves the little and the pretty. When the bees have access to large numbers of limes, so that the storage in their waxen cities has been derived principally from this source, the flavour and quality of the honey are particularly good, and quite as marked as when these creatures feed extensively upon the heather, or upon the aromatic plants of the Labiate kind, to which latter is owing the peculiar and exquisite flavour of the honey of Narbonne." That is simply the prelude to two delightful pages too long to be copied here. Mr. Grindon, who is lecturer on botany at the Royal School of Medicine, Manchester, goes into his subject fairly, and illustrates by literary allusions, ancient and modern. It is a charming volume, and will do much to make "Every man who walks the mead" know why he loves so much the grand beauties of Nature, and to recognise that our own country supplies quite enough, without troubling forests East and West, or their interesting miniature in the hot-house at Kew Gardens.

Essays from "Good Words." By HENRY ROGERS, Author of "The Eclipse of Faith." London: Strahan and Co.

Mr. Rogers's essays were well worth collecting; and readers who may have a serious recollection of "The Eclipse of Faith," as being not all roses, and a present knowledge of *Good Words* as being decidedly devout, need not be afraid of any hard reading in the volume before us. The subjects are varied, and come properly under the name of general literature. "Thoughts for the New Year" is just what "many may have thought, but none so well expressed," with much not too sombre reflection and quotations from Charles Lamb and "The Lounger"—whether our own or not is more than our memory can say. "Novel Antiquities" describes the state of the scientific world on the occasion of the original tables of the Decalogue being discovered and brought to London—in a dream! This paper is really humorous. John Huss and Samuel Fletcher, of Manchester, are biographies; and "Thoughts on Prose Composition" will astonish people far more than M. Jourdain was astonished in Moliere. Mr. Rogers points out that every where literature at its commencement has always been in verse: hence prose is the more difficult to manage. Readers must do battle with such pages for themselves. Public executions, strikes and lock-outs, and railway accidents, furnish subjects for three articles of good common-sense; and "Les Apôtres," from the *Fortnightly Review*, is a sound and orthodox showing up of M. Renan's volume.

Groombridge's Annual Reader, &c. By MARK ANTONY LOWER, M.A., F.R.S. London: Groombridge and Sons.

This volume is described as a "repertory of the principal events of the year, from October, 1866, to October, 1867, for the use of schools;" and the idea of such a volume is likely to gain favour. There are statesmen who think it best to read backward, beginning, say, with the nineteenth century, and then trying the eighteenth; and this is but doing it in years instead of in hundreds of years. It may be likened to the contents of a newspaper, considerably condensed and carefully edited; where no rumours are given, and all important matters may be depended upon as truth. The twelve months, October, 1866-7, saw many interesting events. There is a brief history of the new Reform Bill, of course, and the volunteer review at Dover. The cession of Russian America to the United States, the Atlantic yacht-race, the fire at the Crystal Palace, the visits of the Sultan and the Viceroy of Egypt, are general, and will easily be called to mind. Mr. Lower also gives a series of papers on the French Exhibition, and "Eminent Personages of the Year." As exercises for boys and girls to read aloud, they will be much liked; and as young people do not devour newspapers until they get fairly into the world, a knowledge of what is going on around them should have much to do in forming character and opinion, as well as in giving a present colouring to all that which some day will certainly be dignified as history. Mr. Lower is, perhaps, too newspaper. The "Our Correspondent" and "copy" are ever present. But it is a plain and useful volume, and quite irreproachable on the score of morality.

Handbook of Chemistry. Designed for the Use of Students Preparing for Matriculation at the London University. London: Cassell, Pether, and Galpin.

This little book has been compiled expressly for the use of candidates for the London University examinations, and, we doubt not, will be found serviceable by them. All technicalities are omitted, and, instead, a plain and easy description is given of the properties of the elementary bodies and of their different compounds. As this plan serves to simplify and popularise science, we heartily commend the idea, and wish that other compilers of elementary books of the like kind would, so far, follow the example here set. For our own part, we do not like special preparation for particular examinations, or anything that looks like trusting to "cramming" and "cribbing," instead of to substantial knowledge and honest study; but, if youth must be "crammed" and will use "cribs," the process of special preparation is exhibited in a less objectionable form in this book than in many others that are commonly used.

A School Manual of Health. Being an Introduction to the Elementary Principles of Physiology. By EDWIN LANKESTER, M.D., F.R.S., &c. London: Groombridge and Sons.

Dr. Lankester has done good and kind service to the denizens of schools by the publication of this manual; and we sincerely trust that those who have the control of educational institutions will be prompt to read, digest, and act upon the rules he lays down. Health is the greatest of boons to all, but health is the very essence of existence to schoolboys, and cannot be too diligently cared for. As the principles and practices necessary to secure this are inadequately understood or habitually disregarded by persons who ought to know better, if they were fit for the positions they occupy, Dr. Lankester's book ought to be widely diffused, and, where studied, cannot fail to be useful.

Our Schools and Colleges. By HERBERT FRY. London: Robert Hardwicke.

This is the second annual edition of Mr. Herbert Fry's useful guide to our schools and colleges, and contains information respecting the Universities, and nearly 2000 theological, art, medical, naval, military, civil service, grammar, agricultural, proprietary, collegiate, and other schools. The information has been carefully collected and arranged, and will, no doubt, be highly serviceable to parents in search of a good school for the education of their children.

ARTIFICIAL BABIES.—Another invention from America is reported in the French papers, one which promises to be as useful as the steam-man—*bel's patchies*, or artificial babies, for promoting the comfort and tranquillity of travellers who dislike company. These infants when wound up utter such dreadful cries that chance passengers avoid the carriage which contains one. They are advertised thus:—The best kind with voices very shrill and *mélancholique*, ranging over five octaves at will, ten dollars; the same, but without cessation, fifteen dollars. Of the second class, uttering screams not so loud, but lamentable and insupportable, five dollars. Third class, ordinary intermittent cries, as if from alarm, can be carried in the pocket, two and a half dollars. These infants are warranted for a year, and in elegance and natural appearance leave nothing to be desired.



CASTLE KREIBSTEIN, SAXONY.

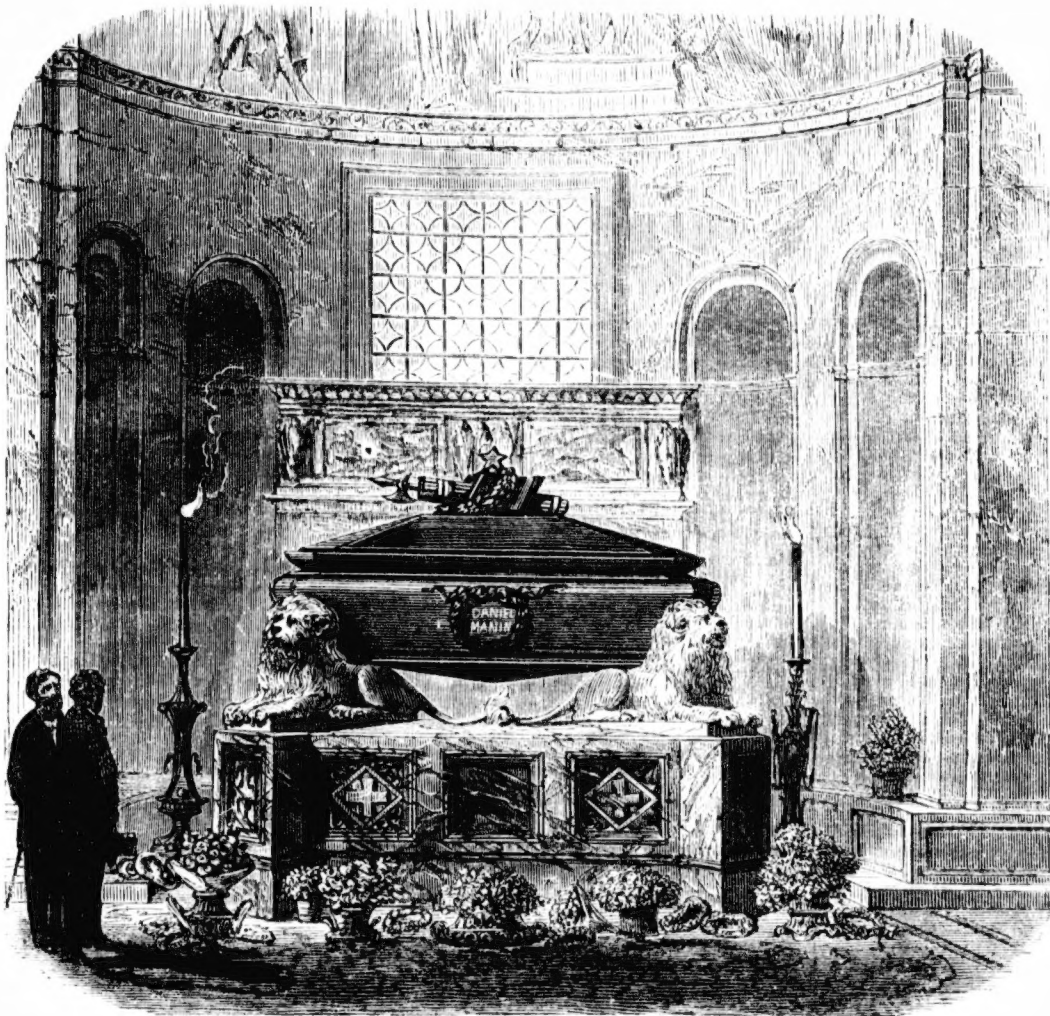
THE MANIN SARCOPHAGUS AT VENICE.

In a late Number of our Paper we published some description of the funeral of the patriot Daniel Manin, at Venice; and we now present our readers with an Engraving of the sarcophagus that contains his remains and those of the two near relatives whose bodies were removed from Paris and placed along with his in the massive and imposing tomb erected to his memory in the vestibule of the Cathedral of St. Mark. There, supported and guarded by the lions emblematic of his native city, rests all that was mortal of the man who struggled so nobly for the freedom of his country, and to whom Italy is largely indebted for the unity and independence she now enjoys. May the example set by Manin be as ever present in the minds of his fellow-citizens as is his monument to their eyes!

THE CASTLE OF KREIBSTEIN.

The traveller in that most romantic part of Europe known in Murray's guide-books and elsewhere as Saxon Switzerland will scarcely remember, unassisted, the number of marvellous old castles which frown in unchanged strength or crumble in noble decay upon the tree-crowned heights above the tributaries of the great Rhine. One of these at least is a virgin fortress, never yet subdued by beleaguering host, and others have been renovated for Ducal or Royal residences—notably that which lies near Blucher's grave and has been adopted by the King of Prussia as a chateau, where the most cherished piece of furniture is the iron bedstead of Frederick the Great.

The country all around these fine relics of feudalism is almost Alpine in its character, but with a southern softness in it, grapes as well as pines, flowers and shrubs as well as rocky crags and grassy knolls intervening to break the rugged monotony of the almost inaccessible hills—many of them full of beautiful woody glens resonant with the songs of birds, or echoing the drowsy splash of the silver stream beneath that mirrors the ancient towers and buttresses, which seem to stand in mid air, so high are they perched upon their strong foundations. Our Illustration is taken from an admirable picture of one of the oldest and least known of these wonderful old structures, standing on a height above the lake-like stream that issues from the Rhine and spreads itself out into a broad sheet, where the wild woody hills are all tangled into a wilderness. The castle of Kreibstein has lately been a little renovated, and several pictures have been added to its walls from a studio at Dresden; but its history, whatever it may be, will not be found in any but the local guide-books, or in some of the dull, prosy, fat little volumes to be found on the stalls of the Berlin booksellers. Murray mentions not its name, and its records are lost in the mist of ages.



THE MANIN SARCOPHAGUS, VENICE.

THE TRIAL OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON.

THE impeachment trial before the American Senate is proceeding much more rapidly than was expected. In consequence of the Court refusing to receive the testimony of several members of the Cabinet as to the advice they tendered to the President respecting the Tenure of Offices Bill, the evidence for the defence appears to have been suddenly concluded on Monday last. On Wednesday the managers on the part of the House of Representatives were to reply on the evidence. The general character of the proceedings may be inferred from the following description, by a correspondent writing on the 7th instant, of a week's business. He says:—

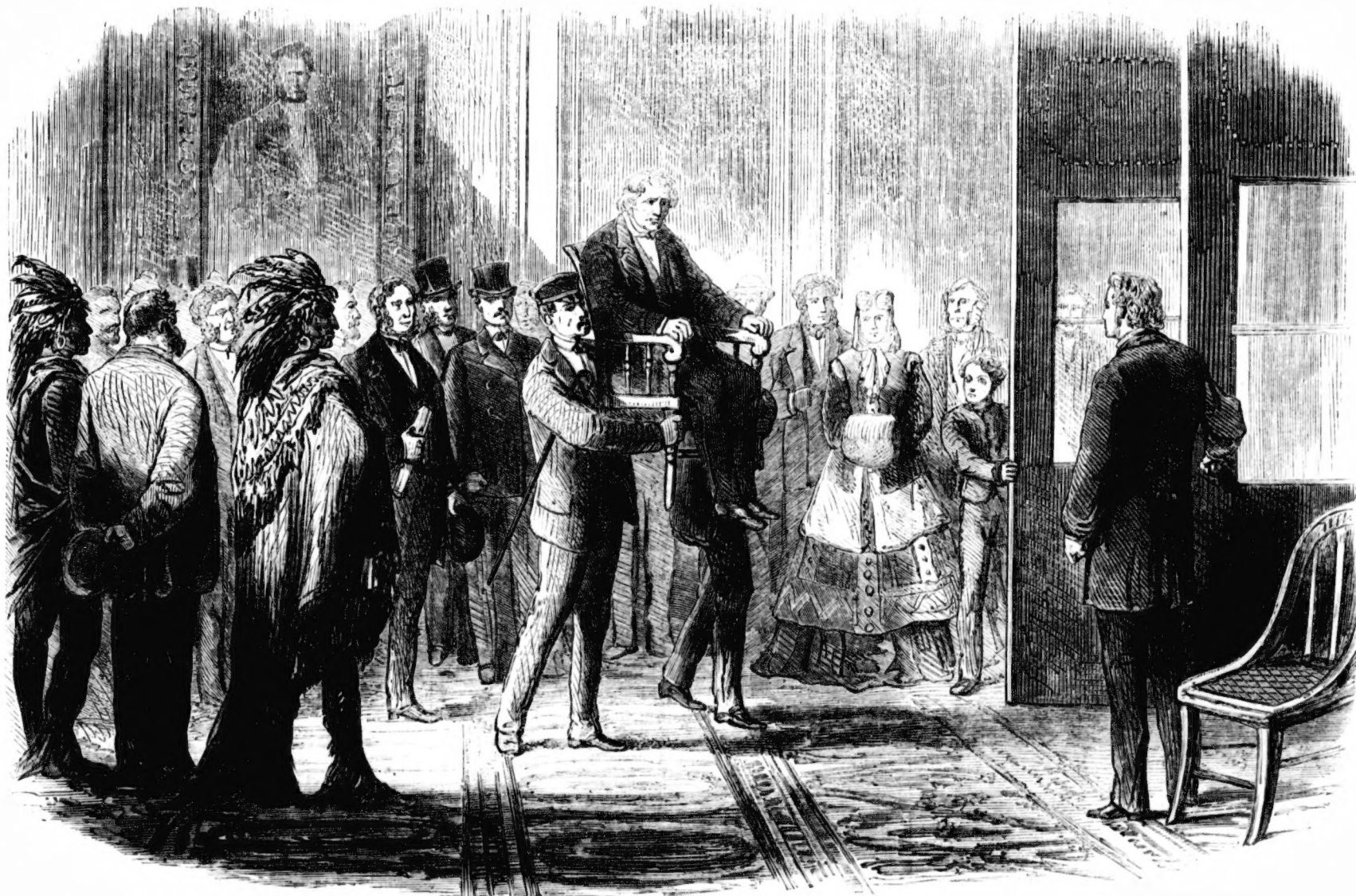
"The Senate sat each day for five or six hours, beginning at twelve a.m., and taking only a very brief recess. The body was in full force, and lent a keen and usually calm consideration to the evidence and arguments of counsel. The House of Representatives attended for the first day or two in considerable numbers, but they soon dwindled away to fifteen or twenty members, and their grand

portment to which he was subjected. It was pleasant to turn from his merely animal face, from the cruel lineaments of Mr. Stevens, and from the sensual visage of Mr. Boutwell, the most earnest and honest of all the impeachers—believing in it devoutly, as a predestined and necessary piece of business; not seeking self-display, and quite ready to let others take the lead and push on the good work. As for poor Mr. Bingham, the chairman of the managers, this trial has punctured his reputation. A keen lawyer enough, he succumbs to the influence of years; and more than once during the trial I have seen him rest his head on the table and go off into what proved, I hope, a happy and refreshing slumber, wherein intruded no 'high crimes and misdemeanors.' All this while General Butler was fighting his stout but unequal battle with the three intellectual giants over the way—each one more than a match for him. Among these you see no lack of deportment. Mr. Stanbery is a polished gentleman of the old school. I had thought him a good deal of an 'old

entrance became thus intensely ludicrous to a people in whom the bump of reverence is not very strongly developed.

"I had had a strong suspicion that General Butler would gradually succeed in winning the foremost place among the managers, but I hardly anticipated how completely he would make himself the Alpha and Omega of the business. In the first place, he made the opening speech—a very careful, bitter, and industriously prepared arraignment of the President. Then came the presentation and reading of a mass of documentary matters, most of them being papers and messages with which the public was already familiar, and this merely formal duty was assigned to Mr. Manager Wilson, he having a good voice. The process took up an hour or two, and then up rose our friend General Butler to examine the witnesses. This he continued to do all through the week, managing the case almost exclusively, and leaving his colleagues very little to say or perform. Questions arose frequently requiring debate—interlocutory questions and questions as to admissibility of evidence—and all these were mainly argued by Mr. Butler for the managers Messrs. Bingham, Boutwell, and Logan subsided into mere accessories of the drama. Mr. Stevens, whose age and infirmity made him all through the week a mere spectator, had to be carried into the court in a chair, and part of the time he was not present. When he was there his face was a study—cold, hard, cruel, unhappy—a man to boldly dare, ready always for the 'thorough,' scorning all doubters and timid followers, never losing sight of his revenge, and with no drop of pity for the fallen—a man whose religion began and ended with fidelity to his party.

"General Logan had not wit enough to follow closely the battle of the lawyers. He was out of his element, and must have chafed at the unusual restraints of de-



THE TRIAL OF PRESIDENT JOHNSON: MR. THADDEUS STEVENS BEING CARRIED INTO THE SENATE CHAMBER.

fogy,' to borrow an Americanism, but I take it all back. His arguments to the Senate are put with power and a severe gravity that hardly admits the use of satire; but his cross-examination of the witnesses for the prosecution are among the keenest things of the kind I have ever had the fortune to listen to. Judge Curtis, who delivered the President's defence, cross-examined no witnesses, but spoke weightily and with consummate logic upon questions of evidence. Perhaps, however, the man who has won most repute, and whose rising created more gratification than any other, is Mr. Evarts, of New York. His style of speech is clear, concise, and effective stripping the sophisms of his opponents of their covering and presenting his own propositions in a light clear as a sunbeam. I can see the difference in the attention of such Republican lawyers as Fessenden, Trumbull, and Edmunds when Mr. Evarts rises to speak. They bend forward with an expectation that is altogether in contrast with their indifferent, resigned manner when General Butler has the floor. The voice of Mr. Evarts is clear, strong, and musical, and, take him all in all, I have never listened to any forensic advocate with so much pleasure.

"Mr. Johnson is fortunate in his counsel, not merely in their abilities and personal character, but in their politics. Mr. Stanbery was a Republican, and, though now a Conservative, is not personally unpopular; Judge Curtis is not a partisan, and Mr. Evarts belongs to the Republican organisation. Hardly any lawyers in the United States could be found who could secure so fair a hearing from the majority in the Chamber. Contrast this with Butler, into whose hands the impeachment has fallen—a man in whose personal integrity no one confides, offensive to the moral sense of all honest men of all parties, and who is frequently rude and indecent in his deportment. It is unfortunate for the impeachers that they could not, like the President, go to the American Bar, which is full of bright men, and select one or more who unite accomplishments, learning, and character to present their case.

"I think I may fairly say that the testimony has not amounted to much. The grave charge of a military conspiracy to overthrow Congress was sought to be proved by the testimony of General Emory and Colonel Wallace; but there was not one word in their testimony to establish the fact as charged. On the contrary their statements went to show a most extraordinary ignorance and inattention on Mr. Johnson's part in respect to all matters of military detail and arrangement. So, too, in respect to the charge of using force to obtain possession of the War Department—there was not a scintilla of evidence to establish the fact. It was shown that General Thomas had, while in a condition of exaltation and felicity consequent on his unexpected promotion, freely declared that, if Stanton did not get out of the way, he would employ force; but it nowhere appeared that he pretended to have Mr. Johnson's orders or suggestions for this course. I hear privately that the President actually instructed General Thomas to use no violence, and he now says, jocosely, that the General was so much excited and exhilarated by his appointment that he began to think it might be necessary to turn him out of the Executive Office. And so of the charge of the conspiracy to use the public moneys illegally—it all falls to the ground. The result is that this branch of the case settles down into an inquiry whether the President has, by issuing a commission *ad interim* to General Thomas, and sending a missive of removal to Mr. Stanton, violated the laws and the Constitution of the land, and that, too, with criminal intent.

"The least defensible portion of the President's case is his speeches at Washington, Cleveland, and St. Louis, made in 1866, reflecting upon Congress. There was a certain difficulty in proving the literal correctness of these speeches, and some allowance must be made for the heat and precipitancy of stump and off-hand addresses, none of which, it appears, were revised by the speaker, though some, at least, have been revised by political enemies to put him in a bad light. With all this, there is little doubt among candid men that the President used language which his friends must deplore, and which I doubt not he himself now regrets. But it has been the fashion in America to concede to everybody a great latitude of speech, and it is the custom for most orators to employ a certain energy and intensity of expression which is altogether different from the style of public speakers in England, France, or Germany."

OBITUARY.

GENERAL SIMPSON.—This distinguished military officer died on Saturday last, at his residence, Horringer, near Bury St. Edmunds, after a somewhat protracted illness. The deceased officer was born in Roxburghshire, in 1792, and, having entered the Army in 1811, was soon introduced to hard service. He took part in the Peninsular War from May, 1812, and was present at the defence of Cadiz and the attack on Seville. He was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1813, and fought in the campaign of 1815, receiving a severe wound at Quatre Bras. He afterwards served some time on the Staff in Ireland, and subsequently held an important command in Mauritius, where he won a high reputation as a regular and meritorious officer. He served under Sir C. Napier throughout the Indian campaign of 1845, where he also distinguished himself, and won high esteem from Lord Ellenborough, the then Governor-General. During the Crimean War he was sent out to discharge the important duties of Chief of the Staff, and was subsequently appointed, much against his own inclination, Commander-in-Chief, as successor to Lord Raglan. Being a very active and painstaking officer, he did his best in that arduous position; but, after his two unsuccessful assaults upon the Redan, he was subjected to severe criticism. His merits were nevertheless recognised by the Government of the day, and he was promoted to the rank of General, and decorated with the grand cross of the Order of the Bath. Soon after receiving these marks of Royal favour he resigned the command, and was succeeded by Sir W. Codrington. In 1855 he was appointed Colonel of the 87th Regiment. He received the Turkish order of the Medjidie, the grand cross of the Military Order of Savoy, and the grand cross of the Legion of Honour. Shortly after the close of the Crimean War General Simpson took up his residence at Horringer, where he lived in retirement until the time of his decease.

DR. BESLY.—Dr. Besly, a name well known amongst members of the University of Oxford, is dead. He was educated at Balliol College, and took his B.A. degree in 1821, when he was third class in classics—the year in which Sir Charles Wood (now Lord Halifax) took a distinguished "double first." Shortly afterwards he was elected a Fellow of Balliol, and became one of the masters in Rugby School. In 1830 he was presented by the Master and Fellows of Balliol College to the Vicarage of Long Benton, Northumberland, and in 1831 by the Earl of Harrowby to the Rectory of Aston-sub-Edge, Gloucestershire, both which livings he held until his death. From 1828 till 1831 he was sub-librarian of the Bodleian Library, in the University of Oxford. In 1836 he was elected a proctor to represent the clergy in the Convocation of York, and continued in that post until 1845. He filled the same office from 1855 till 1864. He was the author of a "Translation of Aristotle's Rhetoric, with Analysis by Hobbes," "The Principles of Christian Allegiance," and many visitation and other sermons.

NEW GOLD-FIELDS IN AUSTRALIA.—Intelligence has been received of extraordinary auriferous discoveries in the neighbouring colony of Queensland. "The Gympie Creek Gold-fields," near Maryborough, a township considerably to the northward of Brisbane, are now attracting very many miners, more especially from New South Wales and New Zealand; and should the exciting news we have already received be hereafter confirmed by further properly authenticated intelligence, we must expect that a large number of our own mining population will soon be on the move to the north. A resident of Maryborough, a Mr. George Curtis, who has a claim at a place called Sailor's Gully, at the head of Nash's Creek, has lighted on a nugget of about 80 lb. weight, estimated to contain at least 1000 oz. of gold. The fortunate finder is, as the Queensland papers inform us, "a scab inspector" for the district, and was amusing himself with a little amateur digging while absent on leave. The prize was deposited by its owner in the Commercial Bank at Nashville, for safe custody. Only three larger masses of gold than this have been found since the discovery of gold in Australia—one, 100 lb. weight, in New South Wales in the year 1851, and two still larger lumps in Victoria subsequently.

TRADE DISTURBANCES.

THE coal and iron districts are just now suffering from strikes and a complete prostration of trade. The "black country" is no longer illumined by its accustomed cyclopaen fires; and in South Lancashire disputes have arisen between the colliers and their employers which have ended in extensive strikes. At Wigan, where the masters have been attempting to supply the place of those who have "turned out" by introducing colliers from other districts, great excitement and alarm has prevailed for some weeks, until at length it has been found necessary to take energetic steps for the prevention of lawless and venal violence. Special constables have been sworn in, military assistance is held in readiness, and the authorities hourly expect the commencement of attacks upon persons and property. Indeed, the magistrates' place of meeting has been surrounded, and one of them saved himself from rough treatment only by displaying a loaded revolver, which he fired over the heads of the menacing crowd. This was the condition of affairs last week at Wigan, diversified by skirmishing between the colliers and the special constables; stones being thrown in showers, and the collier-women going about with their aprons full of those missiles. This week the turn-outs have had at least one gratification. The result of a consultation between Colonel Bruce, county chief constable, and several of the county magistrates, at Aspull on Tuesday, was the determination of the representatives of the Wigan Coal and Iron Company to send back to Staffordshire the "black sheep" whom they had imported, and on that day they left for home amidst the most lively expressions of gratification from the turn-outs.

In reference to this state of affairs, Mr. Samuelson, M.P., writes to a contemporary:—

In the present depressed state of trade the men will probably be compelled to give way, just as the masters were obliged in the greater number of cases after a struggle to submit to an advance of wages when coal and iron were in greater demand. If these disputes were confined to the immediate locality in which an advance of wages is demanded or a reduction enforced the ill-blood created, the capital destroyed, the hunger endured by women and children and subsidiary labourers would be sad enough. But the evil does not end here. The men seek and obtain sympathy from their fellows throughout great Britain, and the masters unite for defence, if not for aggression, until every local contest becomes a war of capital against labour, not only in Lancashire or in Staffordshire, but over the length and breadth of the land. Thus the country suffers equally whenever the demand for labour increases and when it slackens.

When strikes or lock-outs have lasted for months it is usual for some gentleman of great benevolence, but generally possessing little knowledge of the relative strength of the contending parties, to offer his mediation, which is thankfully accepted by those who feel themselves worsted, and contemptuously declined as an improper interference by the winners. Such mediation is rarely of more use than would have resulted if some philanthropist had interfered during the cotton famine between the merchants of Liverpool and the spinners of Preston to arrange that cotton ought not to be sold for more than 17½d., and had declared 18d. to be an extortionate price, and that public sympathy would be with the manufacturers unless the importers abated their demands of the extra farthing.

And yet fluctuations in the price of merchandise occur from day to day. They are settled by "the higgling of the market," in other words, by compromise and conciliation; and what is done in the market for commodities can be done in the market for labour. I say it can be done because I know that it is being done. For the last nine years the hosiers of Nottingham have settled wages by the mutual consent of masters and workmen. I believe the carpet-makers—all except those of Kidderminster, who still prefer strikes and lock-outs—have done so for nearly twenty years. The lacemakers of Nottingham refused to follow the example of the hosiers till last autumn. When I visited Nottingham in the summer lace-frames were standing idle in nearly every factory mainly because every change of fabric produced a dispute as to wages. At length a board of conciliation—a labour exchange, for it is nothing else—was established. The result is that, as your trade correspondent tells you, "the lace trade is brisk," and, as I am informed by one of the principal manufacturers of Nottingham, "not a machine is idle, and all is at peace for the first time within the memory of man."

The masters and workmen of other trades will deserve their inevitable fate if they refuse to lay aside their feuds and follow the example of Nottingham.

The number of men who are "playing" at this moment, in consequence of various trade disputes, is estimated by a competent authority at more than £40,000.

Some London trades unions, taking advantage of the great delay which has occurred between the issue of the Royal Commissioners' reports and evidence, are about to call a conference between "large employers of labour and representative working men connected with trades unions, for the purpose of considering whether the relations between capital and labour cannot be brought into more harmonious action, whereby the disputes which are now constantly arising between those interests may be averted." This conference was determined upon after the trades unionists had waited upon Mr. Gladstone, not to discuss the right of trades unions to exist, for they are to be admitted as legal and necessary—principles which are widely questioned, and not more strongly than among artisans who see the everyday working, but an endeavour is to be made to find out what rules in the unions cause ill-feeling and prejudice, and to point them out to the unions as regarded by some both as inimical to the progress of trade and as causing ill-feeling among employers. By this means it is thought that some modification of objectionable rules may be obtained. The question of trades unions having caused trade to go from this country to foreign countries is also to be entered upon, and the unionists or some of their leaders say that it would be well for an understanding to be come to between capital and labour, that feuds may be lessened and strikes and lock-outs limited by all subjects of difference being referred to arbitration. In this conference Mr. Samuel Morley will represent the employers of the hosiery trades; Mr. Jacob Bright, M.P., employers of the cotton trades; Mr. B. Samuelson, M.P., employers of the engineering trades; Mr. E. W. Watkin, M.P., the railways; Mr. Bass, M.P., the employers of the brewery trades; Mr. Charles Seely, M.P., the book trades; Mr. R. Dalglish, M.P., the woollen trades; Mr. Wigram, the shipping trades; and there will be, besides, employers from the coal, building, iron, and other trades. On the part of labour, representatives from Birmingham, Liverpool, and Glasgow will attend, as well as the representatives of trade councils in various parts of the kingdom. The London Working Men's Association is making the arrangements for the conference.

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.—The principal business at last week's meeting was the opening and consideration of tenders for the construction of the Thames embankment between the Temple and Blackfriars Bridge. The figures were:—Riston and Ridley, £224,450; G. Furness, £255,000; Kelk, Waring Brothers, and Lucas, £187,183; Hill and Kiddle, £232,000; Webster, £195,000; Brasey, £193,000; Jennings, £226,976; Docwra, £227,000; Eckerlesley and Baylis, £169,806; J. Pearson £225,000. After sitting in committee with closed doors for an hour and a half, the board determined to adjourn the selection for one week, when the works and general purposes committee will bring up a report.

OWL'S-LIGHT.—We learn that the Duke of Marlborough is to have the Garter that is vacant by the death of the Marquis of Salisbury. It is premature to state that the Duke of Northumberland has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex. We hear that no arrangements have yet been made, but that it is not improbable that this honour will be conferred on the Marquis of Exeter.—Mr. Gladstone has set at rest any doubts which may have existed as to his course of action on the Irish Church Resolutions. On Tuesday evening in the House of Commons one of his supporters alluded to the rumoured withdrawal of the second and third resolutions. Mr. Gladstone replied that, and the consequences what they might, all his propositions would be moved, and, if they were resisted, divisions taken on each.—Mr. Pope Hennessy, Governor of Labuan, is favourably mentioned for the Governorship of South Australia, vacant by the death of the late Sir Dominick Daly.—All the Roman Catholic Bishops of England are at present in London. They assembled on Tuesday evening at Archbishop Manning's conversazione, preparatory to their synodical meeting on Thursday.—It was stated on Tuesday night in the lobbies of the House of Commons that the Government were going to introduce a bill to abolish the "personal payment of rates" in boroughs. It is understood that the "slaughter of the innocents," to follow the renewed debate on the Irish Church, will not extend to the Bankruptcy Bill.—A meeting of Scotch members is shortly to be held for the purpose of considering whether the pending motion in reference to increased representation for Scotland, and for disfranchising the small English boroughs, should not be made the subject of distinct resolutions.—The Government Telegraph Bill has been vigorously opposed, on technical points, before the Standing Orders examiners, to whom it was found necessary that it should be referred; but they decided on Monday that the measure was correctly promoted, and the second reading, originally fixed for the 20th inst., will be taken on Monday, May 4.—*The Owl.*

THE FENIANS AT THE OLD BAILEY.

THE Fenian prisoners now at the bar of the Old Bailey are of widely different physiognomical types. Viewed from the bench, there is little in common between the row of faces in the dock opposite, save a certain stoicism or hardness which contrasts strangely with the miserable appearance of the abject creature testifying against them. Mullany, unless appearances belie him, is the most actually wretched man in court. Ghastly pale, and with sunken eyes, which look more sunken from his standing with his back to the light, the approver, while under cross-examination, seems to be the hunted man. All present, including the prisoners, seem to listen to him with lofty contempt. None is so poor as to render him anything but scorn at the whining plea that his duty to his young family made him a traitor, and had kept him from accompanying the barrel-firing party to Clerkenwell, though he subscribed for the purchase of powder and was cognizant of the entire scheme. The prisoner Barrett smiles, and Anne Justice laughs outright. While pressed home by the various counsel for the prisoners his long, nervous fingers close half convulsively round the brass knobs of the rail before him; he moves restlessly from foot to foot; his voice is so low and husky that he is frequently reproved for not "speaking up;" while his tongue rolls and lips quiver, as if the one clove to his mouth and the other were parched and dry to a degree which makes free speech impossible. Every eye is on him, and, as he stammers out his answers and explanations in a broad Irish accent, he strives to avoid looking at the dock, as if the sight of his late comrades and victims were unbearable; yet now and again he glances there as if fascination overcame and conquered shame and self-contempt. But for his present degradation and distress he would pass as a good-looking man of thirty, of slim figure and whose Shakespeare collar, gay neck-cloth, and shabby-genteel cloth garments, seem to verify his statement that he earned £5 a week in good times, but had been out of luck lately through the tailors' strike. All this time William Desmond, said to be one of the ruling spirits who planned the outrage, sits in front of his fellow-prisoners, with his face in profile, sternly gazing on the witness, writing little notes from time to time to his attorney below, and receiving and tearing up the brief answers of the latter. An unusually large and heavy beard, sandy in hue, and extending broadly over chest and shoulders; a regular nose; keen grey eyes, which dart their penetrating glances from beneath bushy, overhanging brows; a broad, well-shaped forehead; short, dark brown hair; a thoughtful, intelligent face; florid complexion, a generally respectable exterior, and an air of confident, unceasing watchfulness make this Desmond the most striking figure in the dock. A professional lecturer, the crack orator of a debating club, a shrewd dogmatic expounder of half-truths and crotchets to uneducated companions, are all phases of character to which his appearance and demeanour would fit in. The man next him, his namesake, but, as is easy to see, no relation, Timothy Desmond (said to have been drunk at the time of the outrage, and to have disobeyed the orders of the first Desmond by not sleeping for an hour), is his antithesis in every particular. He is thin in person and shabby in dress. A cadaverous, uneasy face; thin, weak beard and whiskers; dark, curly hair; and a restless, hungry, fretful, dangerous look, which accords fully with his frequent change of posture and fidgety uplifting of hands and arms; his demeanour is the more striking from the calm repose of the right-hand neighbour we have described and the sullen, callous indifference of the prisoner English, on his left. This man is the oldest and most repulsive-looking of the party. He is credited with the speech, "Diabolical! We'll burn the whole of London: that will be more diabolical!" O'Keefe, who comes next in order from left to right, is comparatively characterless—little weak and straggling hair on chin and cheeks; a wavering mouth, partially open; and an aspect of stolid, unintelligent endurance, brightened by fiftal, half-formed smiles when Mullany is made more than usually uncomfortable, are the points in which he differs chiefly from Barrett or Jackson, who sits between him and Ann Justice. The man last named (who is accused of having actually fired the barrel) is better dressed than the rest, and of an obviously higher station. Under other circumstances, you would admire his look of determination and frank courage. A bright, resolute eye, quiet in marking the slightest and most trivial incident in court; a confident, brisk bearing; manly, regular features; a short, crisp beard, thick hair, and a muscular, compact figure, show him to be the physical, as William Desmond is the mental, superior of all the people accused. He, too, writes frequent notes to his attorney, and often smiles contemptuously at Mullany's statements and admissions, but in an offhand, dashing way, as if a mere informer were really too small a subject for serious indignation. Ann Justice (who had interviews with Burke and Casey in prison, and is charged with having acted as go-between between them and their would-be deliverers) in a coarse woollen shawl, pinned closely to the throat, as if to conceal an insufficiency of under garments, and with bold, dark, gleaming eyes which rove unabashed about the court, is evidently expecting friends. Whenever a door opens or the least movement is made by officials or barristers this woman's eye is there. She examines every face quickly and suspiciously, and looks round and round, finally bending her body back to obtain a good upward gaze at the sitters in the gallery behind and above the dock. Inquisitive, expectant, and, if her situation were less critical, with what one would call a sense of humour, she looks about and around her with unaffected interest. The coarse wood-cut sold in the streets is wonderfully like, and her good-looking, common face is that of hundreds of women to be seen at court-entries and ginshop doors in the poor neighbourhoods of hidden London. Her look of restless cunning is brought into relief by the stolid, immovable features of the female turnkey sitting behind her, who might be a mask of wood in blue ribbons and a bonnet. Ann Justice drinks greedily of the water brought her, turning round, as if in politeness to the Judge, whilst doing so. The bold respectability in black behind the male prisoners is the turnkey, and looks every inch a vestryman; while the City police officers are plentifully distributed about and around the dock, bringing into still stronger contrast the characteristics of the accused. These remain unaltered during our stay; and, without building up a theory or deducing a single inference from what we saw, we give the foregoing as a tolerably faithful picture of the Fenians in the dock.—*Express.*

ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP BUCKINGHAM PALACE.—On Tuesday evening, between seven and eight o'clock, two fellows were taken into custody in the neighbourhood of Buckingham Palace with about two quarts of a dangerous explosive material called "Greek fire" in their possession. The men resisted apprehension with such violence that one of the officers was compelled to draw a revolver and threaten to use it. The affair is at present somewhat mysterious, but it would seem from what transpired at Bow-street Police Court on Wednesday and elsewhere that the police had knowledge of the preparation of the material, but nothing is known of the purpose for which it was intended. The prisoners, one of whom was identified as a member of the Fenian brotherhood, were remanded for a few days.

GOVERNMENT ANNUITIES AND ASSURANCES.—An account included in the last Parliamentary paper published on that subject shows that, since the commencement of business on April 17, 1865, up to Dec. 17, 1867, the receipts have amounted to £163,751, £79,813 of which was taken during last year. Of the total sum, £136,637 was on account of cash received for immediate annuities; £2893 for deferred annuities and monthly allowances, money not returnable; £2687 for deferred annuities and monthly allowances, money returnable; £755 cash received for fees on annuity contracts; £11,925 cash received from the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt; £7584 cash received on account of contracts for the payment of sums at death, and £288 cash received from the National Debt Commissioners for the payment of amounts due under contracts for sums payable at death. The total payments have amounted to £163,751, £140,267 of which represents cash paid to the National Debt Commissioners for investment on account of sums received for the purchase of annuities; £11,650 annuities paid; £226 premiums on deferred annuity contracts, money returnable, repaid to contractors; £7441 cash paid to National Debt Commissioners on account of premiums received on contract for sums payable at death; £388 for cash paid under contracts for sums payable at death; and £3777 balance remaining in the hands of the Postmaster-General at the end of the year. The total charges for management have amounted to £2911, the chief items of which are £1405 for stationery, £756 for salaries and allowances, £214 for postage, and £183 for fees to medical officers.

THE FENIAN TRIALS.

MONDAY morning having been appointed for the trial of the prisoners charged with being concerned in the Fenian outrage at Clerkenwell, the greatest interest appeared to be excited to hear the proceedings. Very excellent arrangements were made for the preservation of order, and no persons were admitted to the court except by tickets; and thus everyone who had any business to transact found ready access to the court. A considerable number of police were in attendance, and they rendered valuable assistance in preserving order. There were nearly 400 jurors summoned, as it was expected the prisoners would exercise their right of challenge, and they were, so far as possible, accommodated in the gallery and other parts of the court.

At half-past ten o'clock the learned Judges, Lord Chief Justice Cockburn and Mr. Baron Bramwell, attended by several aldermen, took their seats on the bench. The prisoners—William Desmond, aged thirty-eight, bootmaker; Timothy Desmond, forty-six, tailor; Nicholas English, forty-six, tailor; John O'Keefe, twenty-five, bootmaker; Michael Barrett, alias Jackson, twenty-seven, no occupation; and Ann Justice, twenty-two, married—were immediately called up and charged with the wilful murder of Ann Hodgkinson. The whole of the prisoners pleaded, in distinct tones, "Not guilty;" and Ann Justice added, "I know nothing of it." The counsel for the prosecution were the Attorney-General, the Solicitor-General, Mr. Giffard, Q.C.; Mr. Poland, and Mr. Archibald. Mr. Montagu Williams defended O'Keefe and Ann Justice; Mr. Baker Greene appeared for Barrett and English; Mr. Straight for Timothy Desmond; and Mr. Warner Sleight for William Desmond. By order of the Judges the prisoners were provided with seats.

The Attorney-General proceeded to open the case on behalf of the Crown amid breathless silence, and said he would state the very serious charge against the prisoners. He need scarcely repeat to them that the death of the woman of whose death the prisoners were accused was caused by the explosion at the House of Detention in Clerkenwell, in which the prisoners were alleged to have been concerned. He should prove that four of the prisoners were members of that abhorred brotherhood called the Fenian Brotherhood, and it appeared that after the arrest of a person named Burke, who was connected with the Fenian conspiracy, arrangements were made for attempting his release. About this time the prisoner Barrett came to London, and it would be shown that he frequented the house of a man named Mullady, in Sherwood-street. This house was likewise frequented by a person called Murphy, or "Captain" Murphy, and he held communication with a woman of the name of Barry, who was in the habit of visiting Burke, and it would appear that the plan of blowing down that portion of the wall inclosing the exercising-ground of the House of Detention originated with Burke himself. The plan agreed upon, beyond all doubt, was this—that while Burke was exercising, a barrel of gunpowder should be placed against the weakest part of the wall, that a signal should be made to Burke, and that in the confusion caused by the explosion he should make his escape. This was the arrangement made, and he should show that all the prisoners were implicated in it with the exception of Ann Justice, whose case was somewhat peculiar. To raise funds with which to carry out this scheme a meeting was held in a public-house in Holborn about Dec. 2; and on Dec. 4 a man called Curtis and Harvey's, powder manufacturers; and a few days afterwards the same man, whose name was Felix Falcon, and who was not in custody, made a purchase of 200 lb. of gunpowder. This quantity of gunpowder, in four barrels, was delivered to a man named Smith, in Pulteney-court, where one of the barrels was put in a back yard but the other three were wheeled away in a truck. Subsequent to this there seemed to have been meetings from time to time of those engaged in the plot, and on Dec. 7, on which day Corydon, an informer, gave evidence against Burke, at Bow-street, Barrett attended with a pistol, with the intention of shooting him, but did not carry out his purpose. On Dec. 11 a meeting was held, and it was agreed that on the following day, Thursday, Dec. 13, the wall should be blown down, and part of the arrangement was that a ball should be thrown over the wall as a signal to Burke that everything was ready. On the following day accordingly a ball was thrown over into the prison, and Burke was observed to step aside and pick it up. At the same time the notice of a number of persons was attracted to a barrel outside the prison wall, but the lighting of the barrel failed and it was wheeled away. The learned gentleman next referred to the conversation which took place at Mullady's on the same evening, and the expression of Barrett "that he would light it next day himself, and blow them all to hell." He then detailed the proceedings which took place on Dec. 13, when the explosion actually did occur, and the evidence against Ann Justice, and concluded by calling upon the witnesses for the prosecution.

Some merely formal and preliminary evidence having been given, Patrick Mullany, the approver, was next called as a witness for the Crown, and examined at great length by the Attorney-General. His evidence was to the effect that he was a member of the Fenian brotherhood, and that all the male prisoners were also members of the Fenian association; that Barrett had nine "B's" under him, and that he was a head centre. He spoke of the arrest of Burke and Casey, and said that Burke sent a letter to a Captain Murphy, who was an active agent of the Fenian brotherhood, and who was said to be an American officer, suggesting the place for blowing down the prison wall; and that it was carried out with the knowledge of all the male prisoners, and he represented that Barrett was the man who fired the barrel, and that he admitted the fact to him. This closed the proceedings of Monday.

The trial was resumed on Tuesday, when the cross-examination of Mullany, the approver, took place. The Lord Chief Justice cautioned him against putting words of his own into the mouth of the prisoners, a habit in which he frequently indulges. His motive for giving information, he said, was because he thought English was going to do the same thing, and he concluded it was better to be first in the race. He was not certain that he was not told by the warders of the House of Detention that some of his companions were going to turn informers. He

has been in the Army, and refuses to say whether he deserted or not. He expects to get a portion of the reward if the prisoners are convicted; but he does not know, and is "the property of the Crown."

The trial was continued on Wednesday. Bird, the dairyman, was examined for the prosecution, and swore to Barrett as the man who fired the fuse. A lad of fourteen, who was put into the witness-box, and who had little to say except that he had seen the barrel and the truck which have already been seen and sworn to by so many people, was ordered to stand down by the Chief Justice. The other evidence adduced was a repetition of that given before the police court, with which the public are already familiar.

The trial was resumed on Thursday; when, after some further evidence was offered, the case for the prosecution was closed, and the Lord Chief Justice asked the Attorney-General what case there was against Ann Justice; and eventually, under his Lordship's direction, the jury at once returned a verdict of "Not guilty."

Ann Justice was then allowed to leave the dock. Prior to passing down the stairs, she warmly shook hands with the prisoners, and threw her arms round the neck of Barrett, who had occupied the seat next to her. All the accused seemed delighted at her acquittal. There are other indictments against her, so that she still remains in custody.

Mr. Montagu Williams submitted that there was no case against O'Keefe.

The Lord Chief Justice could not say that the case of O'Keefe was like that of Ann Justice; but he would leave it to the Attorney-General to consider whether he would withdraw the charge against him.

Mr. Warner Sleight then addressed the jury for William Desmond.

POLICE.

VERY SUSPICIOUS.—Mrs. Pratt, a poor needlewoman, attended by many others in the same condition as herself, applied to the magistrate at Guildhall for his advice and assistance under the following circumstances:—Several advertisements have lately appeared in the *Clerkenwell News* offering beadwork to people to execute, but requiring a small deposit for security of the goods given out. The advertisement bore no name, but applicants were directed to apply to No. 4, Jewin-street, Aldersgate-street. Upwards of thirty poor women and girls went there in answer to the advertisement, and each made deposits of from 2s. 6d. to 15s., according to the work they took. Their work completed, they took it home, and were told to call on Saturday for the money. When they called on that Saturday there was nobody in the office, but a notice was put up stating that Mr. D. Wilson would meet the workpeople on the following Wednesday, pay them for their work, and return them their deposits. When they went on that day another notice was put up, putting off the day of payment till another day, and so it had been going on till the present time. When they called on Saturday last the notice requested them to call again next Saturday; but, as there appeared to be no prospect of ever seeing Mr. D. Wilson, they had come to this court to see if the magistrate could give them any redress.—Mr. Martin, chief clerk, said it looked very like a fraud, and if Mrs. Pratt would bring him a copy of the advertisement he would see what redress the worthy Alderman could give her.

THE WIFE OF FOUR HUSBANDS.—Ann Rickaby, aged twenty-four, and well dressed, was charged at Southwark with intermarrying with Robert Mills, Charles Reeves, and Humphrey Purcell Blackmore, her first husband being then and now living. The prisoner was in travelling costume, and had with her two valuable dogs, a pair of canaries, and a large quantity of luggage.

Mr. H. W. Vallance, who appeared for the prosecution, said that he was instructed by Dr. Blackmore, a physician, residing at Salisbury, who had married the prisoner on Oct. 1 last, to proceed against her for bigamy. On the previous day they traced her from Exeter to London, coming up in the same train, and on their arrival they had a constable in attendance at the Waterloo terminus, to whom he gave her into custody. He was not prepared to go into all the facts of the case that day, but he would give sufficient evidence to warrant a remand. Mr. Vallance was then sworn, and produced copies of certificates of the marriage of the prisoner with Charles Reeves, at Cardiff, on June 2, 1863; and on Jan. 22, 1866, at Carlisle, with Robert Mills; and, lastly, with his client, Mr. Humphrey Purcell Blackmore, physician, Salisbury, on Oct. 1 last, at Perth. Before the earliest of these marriages she was married and her husband is still living. Mr. Burcham told him he must have some evidence of one of the marriages. Mr. Vallance said that the marriage with Mr. Blackmore was celebrated according to the Scotch law, and he had the contract between the parties drawn up by the prisoner and signed by Mr. Blackmore and witnesses. The contract produced was in her handwriting. He had compared it with letters she had written to him, and it corresponded exactly. The prisoner here said that the first marriage was void. The man Reeves's name was Rutter when he married her. He took advantage of her. Mr. Burcham told her that if she was married to him it was a valid marriage. If that were void, there was her marriage with Mills. The prisoner said that Mills at the time was a married man and had a wife and children living. Mr. Burcham observed that if such were the case there was a double bigamy. Mr. Vallance here said it was a painful thing for him to prosecute the prisoner, whose connections were highly respectable; but he had a duty to perform to his client and the public. He therefore asked for a remand to enable him to produce evidence of the former marriages. Mr. Burcham accordingly remanded the prisoner until Monday next, agreeing to accept two sureties in £100 each for her appearance. Bail not being forthcoming, she was removed to Horsefonger-lane Gaol.

A CURIOUS COPYRIGHT DECISION.—Judge Robertson, of the Superior Court of New York, has given a decision of importance to play-writers and theatrical managers. The case was an appeal from the judgment of a lower court in regard to the ownership of Mr. Tom Taylor's play, "Our American Cousin." Miss Laura Keane being the respondent, and Mr. John S. Clarke the appellant.

The Judge confirmed the verdict of the lower court, and, in delivering his decision, held that the author or proprietor of an uncopyrighted composition parts with his rights by communicating the composition to others, and that, in regard to an uncopyrighted play, the audience have a property in so much of it as they can carry away in their memories, unless the manager or author have notified to them that the play is not to be remembered. This notice must be given publicly by cards hung around the auditorium and printed on the tickets. A notice on the play-bills alone is not sufficient. But nobody is to be allowed to take notes of a play, under the penalty of expulsion by the police, since this would violate the implied agreement of the admission-tickets. The effect of this extraordinary decision may be estimated when we remember that, under the present laws, all plays by English authors are uncopyrighted in the United States.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—M. WARREN, Islington, milliner.—J. A. TALEN, Mile-end Old Town, drug-grinder.—U. H. JONES, Liverpool, builder.

BANKRUPT.—J. RUFF, Hampton-wick, G. WATSON, Kenel-green, bootmaker.—J. F. CHITTENDEN, Lee, surgeon.—J. HOLDEN, Hackney, clerk.—G. HARRIS, Marylebone, news-agent.—F. W. COOPER, Westminster, builder.—G. K. HOWELL, Stepney, J. COSTIN, Hoxton, plumber.—W. LAURENCE, Piccadilly, hotel-keeper.—J. BEWSEY, Portsea, boot and shoe maker.—H. BOTSFOED, Croydon, builder.—A. HOWSE, Kensington, licensed victualler.—J. MASON, Whitechapel, beer retailer.—J. W. YOUNG, St. John's-wood, oil refiner.—M. WITTENBURG, St. Mary-abell, tailor.—C. P. EVANS, Luton, carpenter.—B. T. HAZELL, Bethnal-green-road.—J. INGRAM, King's-cross, coffee-house keeper.—R. WARLOW, Paddington, builder.—J. F. JOHNSON, Thornton-heath, carman.—T. CLARK, Deptford, labourer.—F. H. THOMAS, Greenwich, master mariner.—Z. LEVY, Spitalfields, grocer.—J. HARRIS, Notting-hill, baker.—W. CHINN, Row-heath, Worcester-shire, farmer.—H. CHINN, jun., King's-heath, Worcester-shire, farmer.—J. FLETCHER, Tivdale, Worcester-shire, ironmaster.—J. OAKES, Biddulph, boot-maker.—D. SIMPSON, Haslemere, licensed victualler.—J. CURRY, Shepton Mallet, tailor.—A. GRANT, Weymouth, retired officer.—T. ATTWOOD, Exeter, earthenware dealer.—H. J. W. SHERREN, Melcombe Regis, glassdealer.—J. TETLEY, Bradford, woollapster.—S. SOWEN, Bradford, woollapster.—H. RIDER, Leeds, ink-keeper.—L. GANUS and P. TUNZ, Liverpool, shipbrokers.—F. S. PARKER, Liverpool, licensed victualler.—B. HARGREAVES and W. SIMPSON, Burnley, cotton manufacturers.—W. MARTIN, Manchester, bootmaker.—W. JOLLEY, Wigan, grocer.—J. C. PAULING, Leamington, bookseller.—J. BRADBURY, Darro-in-Furness, grocer.—L. NUTTALL, Rochdale, bookseller.—W. L. LIDSON, Bristol.—J. READER, Holme-upon-Spalding Moor.—G. SHEDDICK, Langrynder, beer retailer.—I. GUYER, Taunton, soap-maker.—R. PICKETT, Highbury, butcher.—J. SANDERS, Uxbridge, basket-maker.—M. DIXON, Armthwaite, —R. BANKS, Wednesbury, miner.—J. PATTINSON, Carlisle, joiner.—R. EDWARDS, Halesowen, greengrocer.—W. POWELL, West Bromwich, millwright.—M. WIMPENY, Almondbury, farmer.—J. ROBINSON, Leamington, agent.—G. E. GREEN, Grantham, watchmaker.—J. PAYNE, Cannock, charter-master.—W. M. RADFORD, Swansea, cooper.—H. FENNER, Isle of Thanet, carpenter.—F. BARTON, Gravesend, wheelwright.—T. HINDS, Birkhead, donkeyman.—G. HENRY, C. F. Smith, —R. KLYINGE, Notting-hill, draper.—A. TILSTON, Neston.—G. FOLGER, Lewes, commission merchant.—G. MAURIS, Brighton.—J. H. BEVERLY, Bradford, J. LEWIS, Aylesbury, fellmonger.—D. WINKS, Halifax, butcher.—J. ROSE, Fife, farmer.—G. ELLIOTT, Warr, wheelwright.—J. ULDER, Chester, linen-draper.—R. D. SULLIVAN, Devonport.—T. LARGE, Market Deeping, seedsman.—W. BENNETT, Redruth, grocer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—T. HENDERSON, jun., Glasgow, clerk.—W. C. RUSSELL, Glasgow, grocer's assistant.—P. HUYER, Boreham, merchant.—G. GOODFELLOW, Grants House, Berwickshire, boot and shoe maker.—C. FOLLYTH, Patehead, mason.

TUESDAY, APRIL 21.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—W. BUCK, East Farleigh, farmer.—W. DOUGLAS, Merthyr Tydfil, draper.

BANKRUPT.—J. STEVENS, Hammersmith, builder.—W. CRICK, Thaxted, cooper.—H. FREEMAN, Aldermanbury, woollen merchant.—C. LABLACHE, Greenwich, master mariner.—S. DICKSON, Southwark.—R. L. ALLEN, Topley New Town, Clebury, Mortimer, licensed victualler.—J. O. MILLS, Mile-end Old Town, proprietor of saw-mills.—A. H. HERRING, Islington, pewterer.—L. PULLINGER, Canterbury, tea-dealer.—W. OVERTON, Kennington-cross, brass-finisher.—G. HUBBELL, jun., Barnham, grocer.—E. WAUGH, Boreham, importer of fancy goods.—T. R. CLAPMAN, Canterbury, J. G. BARROWS, High Holborn, licensed victualler.—G. FAIR, Old Kent-road, shoemaker.—S. I. SYDNEY, Aldgate, attorney.—J. S. HAXTER, East Midway Park.—A. ALEXANDER, Pinchbeck, clerk.—J. ROBINSON, Lower Edmonton.—A. D. LITTLEDALE, Strand.—J. HECKELL, Rochester, ship-chandler.—D. FOX, Ramsgate, builder.—G. MYNARD, Cranfield Bourne-end, machinist.—C. BANNISTER, Tisbury, grocer.—T. and C. STARKY, Felsell, charter-masters.—J. GRIKEN, Worcester, timber merchant.—G. HUBBELL, Ironfounder.—J. J. G. RICHARDS, Wolverhampton.—R. CROFT, Metheringham, grocer.—R. SMITH, Loughborough, licensed victualler.—W. B. LURANT, Miford, licensed victualler.—E. E. COTTELL, Bristol, milliner.—C. S. MEELEY, Teignmouth, barrister-at-law.—E. BAILEY, Leeds, tea-dealer.—ROBERTSON, Liverpool, draper.—J. THOMAS, Carnarvon, blacksmith.—W. MCORMACK, jun., St. Helena, assistant manager of railway works.—W. BLACKBURN, Liverpool, tailor.—R. MANSBY, Accrington, cotton manufacturer.—R. POOL, Rochdale, cotton agent.—E. C. GIBBS, Ashton-under-Lyne, manager of a cotton-mill.—O. W. JOHNSON, Chorlton-on-Medlock, general merchant.—J. KEMP, Sheffield, butcher.—J. SMITH, Wigan, watchmaker.—T. BRAZENSOL, Birmingham, iron manufacturer.—H. ROBINSON, Liverpool, surveyor.—G. CHAPMAN, New Dutton, carpenter.—H. DUNSTON, Smeinton, warehouse porter.—W. HOLBORN, Pontyfrith, publican.—C. STYLES, Kidderminster, labourer.—R. BELLETT, Kinglebridge, ink-keeper.—C. MAGE, Norwich, tobaccoist.—H. NEWALL, Clebury, Mortimer, licensed victualler.—W. DOLEY, Birchillie, publican.—J. WALLOP, Exeter, waiter.—W. CURTIS, sen., Docking, bricklayer.—M. WOODHEAD, Oldham.—W. BAINTON, Kingston-on-Hull, bricklayer.—J. A. BENNETT, Kingston-on-Hull, Indian merchant.—J. BENSON, Kingston-on-Hull, painter.—A. SHIELD, Leicester, pork-butcher.—W. TOLE, Manchester, fishmonger.—E. F. WHITEFIELD, Truro, cooper.—M. CHALTON, Ryhope Colliery, shipwright.—G. EDGLEY, Wisbech, waterman.—J. LOVELL, Western-super-Mare, painter.—S. JEFFERIES, South Shields, retailer of ale.—J. AVERNS, Foleshill.—A. E. HANGER, Bourne-mouth, lodging-house keeper.—J. REED, New Shildon, joiner.—J. BRITTON, Penelton, greengrocer.—J. BROCKHANK, jun., St. Helen's, boot and shoe maker.—S. HARRISON, Nelson, Mowbray, labourer.—W. HARDY, East Bedford, clerk.—E. T. RUSSELL, Bath, cabinet-maker.—G. DILLON, Bath, butcher.—R. THOMPSON, Bilton, butcher.—T. WALTON, York, bookbinder.—W. MATTHEWS, Wombourne, beerhouse-keeper.—T. WOODS, Felling.—W. P. TRIBE, Brighton, boot-maker.—HUDESPETH, Gateshead, labourer.—J. F. MORTLOCK, Cambridge, bookseller.—A. T. CROWHURST, Brighton, dyer.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.—A. GOURLAY, Peterhead, oil merchant.—H. SPEIRS, Kilsyth, draper.—D. M'LEISH, Glasgow, tailor.—J. GLEN, Edinburgh, commission agent.—MALCOLM and RAE, Castle Douglas, clothiers.

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